

ACADEMIES IN INDIA

1. Madras Technical School, Madras.
2. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
3. Government College, Calcutta.
4. Government College, Bombay.
5. Government College, Madras.
6. Government College, Calcutta.
7. Government College, Bombay.
8. Government College, Madras.
9. Government College, Calcutta.
10. Government College, Bombay.
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14. Government College, Madras.
15. Government College, Calcutta.
16. Government College, Bombay.
17. Government College, Madras.
18. Government College, Calcutta.

Assam Legislative Assembly Debates

OFFICIAL REPORT

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE FIRST
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE
SOVEREIGN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN
CONSTITUTION OF
INDIA

MARCH SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 16

The 24th March, 1955



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1956

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Legislative Assembly

Debates

Official Report

SEVENTH SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK
Held at Fredericton, N.B., on the 1st day of March, 1891.
By the Hon. J. A. Macdonald, M.P.

MARCH SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 10

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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1955

(March Session)

Vol. I, No.16

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Proceedings of the seventh Session of the Assam Legislative Assembly assembled after the First General Election under the Sovereign Democratic Republican Constitution of India

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong at 10 A. M., on Thursday, the 24th March, 1955.

P R E S E N T

Shri Kuladhar Chaliha, B.L., Speaker, in the Chair, the nine Ministers, the two Deputy Ministers, the two Parliamentary Secretaries and seventy-three Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

Date of transfer of Sri S. Sarao and Sri M. Chakravarty, Magistrates from Gauhati

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA asked :

*32. Will the Minister-in-charge of the Judicial Department be pleased to state—

- (a) The dates on which Sri S. Sarao and Sri M. Chakravarty, Magistrates, have been transferred from Gauhati ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that as per a general order of the District Magistrate, Kamrup, most of the cases pending in the Courts of Sri S. Sarao and Sri M. Chakravarty have been adjourned *sine-die* ?
- (c) Whether the District Magistrate, Kamrup, before passing the said order, did seek and take approval of the High Court or the District Judge ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) replied :

32.(a)—With effect from 18th November, 1954 and 28th December, 1954 respectively.

(b)—The cases triable by second Class Magistrate were transferred to such Magistrates. Those cases in which the accuseds were in *hajat* were also transferred to other Magistrates. The rest of the cases were kept pending till the arrival of the successors.

(c)—No.

Area of Land requisitioned from the Barduwar Tea Estate

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI asked :

*33. Will the Minister of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) How much land has been requisitioned from the Barduwar Tea Estate and when ?

(b) What is the total area of the Estate and what areas of land are under tea ?

(c) Whether any steps have been taken to settle the land requisitioned with landless people and if not, what is the reason for not doing so ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

33.(a)—An area of 3,444 bighas and 2 kathas was requisitioned from the Barduwar Tea Estate on 24th November, 1954.

(b)—The total area of the Estate is 17,817 bighas, 1 katha and 16 lessas and out of this an area of 983 bighas, 3 kathas, 10 lessas is under tea.

(c)—The allotment of the land in question with landless and flood-affected people is awaiting the disposal of an appeal petition filed by the garden authority before the Government.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Will the Minister be pleased to state when was this petition filed?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : The petition was filed probably some 10 or 12 months back. Hearing was given but in the hearing it so happened that the appellate party offered an alternative plot of land in lieu of this. The Deputy Commissioner was asked to see if the land will be suitable for the purpose. I am waiting the report of the Deputy Commissioner.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : When does the Minister expect the report ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) : I have asked him to expedite.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Appointments made and number of office Assistants in the offices of the Additional District Judge and the Sub-Judge at Silchar

Maulavi MEHRAB ALI LASKAR asked :

54. Will the Minister-in-charge of Judicial Department be pleased to state—

- (a) The number of office Assistants in the offices of the Additional District Judge and the Sub-Judge at Silchar and how many of them are local people and how many are Pakistani people opting for service in India ?
- (b) How many new appointments were made in both the offices since Partition ?
- (c) Whether those new appointments were made from local people or from refugees ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that recently an appointment of an office assistant was made in the office of the Additional District Judge, Silchar ?
- (e) What was the number of candidates for this post ?
- (f) Whether it is a fact that a refugee was appointed in preference to suitable local candidates ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that the gentleman appointed is the son of the refugee Sheristadar of the office ?
- (h) What is the qualification of this gentleman ?
- (i) Whether it is a fact that the knowledge of typewriting was a condition for this appointment ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that this gentleman does not know typewriting ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that there was a large number of qualified local candidates with knowledge of typewriting and also a local candidate with knowledge of typewriting with past experience as office assistant in the office of the Sub-Judge, Silchar ?

- (l) If so, what is the reason of appointing a refugee in preference to suitable local candidates ?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) replied:

54.(a)—Three in each of the offices. There is no Pakistani employee in either of the offices.

(b)—Only two new appointments, one in Additional District Judge's Office and one in Sub-Judge's Office.

(c)—Of the two new appointments, one local and one refugee.

(d)—Yes, in July, 1954.

(e)—Five.

(f)—A refugee was appointed in preference to other candidates after a test examination was held.

(g)—He is the son of the Sheristadar of the office but the Sheristadar is not a refugee.

(h)—Read up to I.Sc.

(i)—Yes.

(j)—No. He knows typewriting.

(k)—No. There was however one candidate who was formerly appointed in the office of the Sub-Judge on the 3rd December, 1952. But as the District and Sessions Judge did not approve of the appointment he was discharged on the 6th March, 1953.

(l)—Of the 5 candidates who applied, one did not appear in the test. Of the 4, the one appointed was found the best.

Resolutions praying for loan by the villagers of Fakiragram area to overcome the hardships caused by Flood

Raja AJIT NARAYAN DEB of Sidli asked :

55. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he has lately received a number of resolutions from the villagers of Fakiragram area praying

for loan in cash and kind to overcome the hardships caused by flood and insect pests ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture promised to supply Government paddy at six rupees a maund in a meeting at Sakti Ashram on 7th December, 1954 ?

(c) If the reply to the above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to issue loan in cash or paddy and sell paddy at Rs. 6 per maund to the people affected by floods and insect pests ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

55.(a)—No such resolutions could be traced. But Government received telegrams from the President, Rural Panchayat, and from the hon. Member to the effect that there was food crisis in Fakiragram area and the Deputy Commissioner was asked to take appropriate action.

(b)—Government have no information as the then Minister, Agriculture, has not left any note on this point.

(c)—Government have already sanctioned agricultural loan of Rs.10,08,000 and also a subsidy of Rs.2,40,000 for the issue of 60,000 maunds of paddy at concessional rate for Dhubri Subdivision. Fakiragram area has got its due share from these amounts. The latest report received from Deputy Commissioner indicates that there is no scarcity in Fakiragram and rice and paddy are available at reasonable prices.

Settlement of land to Jyotsnarani Devi, daughter of Lokenath of village Berenga, Part II, Pargana Barakpar of Cachar District

Maulavi MEHRAB ALI LASKAR asked :

56. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that one Jyotsnarani Devi, daughter of Lokenath of Village Berenga, Part II, Pargana Barakpar of Cachar was granted settlement

of 21B. 18K. of land in Dag No.652 in Pargana Chatla, Village Alambag under Silchar Subdivision in Settlement Case No.435 of 1953-54 ?

(b) What is she and who is she ?

(c) Whether she is landless and if not, what is her special claim for getting settlement ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

56.(a)—Yes.

(b)—She is the wife of Shri Raichand Nath, M.L.A.

(c)—She was considered landless and given this area for that reason as the eight bighas of land held by husband with others does not at all constitute an economic holding.

Petition against Assistant Sub-Inspector of Excise of Tarabari

Maulavi TAJUDDIN AHMED asked :

57. Will the Minister of Excise be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Excise Assistant Sub-Inspector and Peons of Tarabari within the course of last 4 months went to the village Chidalkuchi-Lachima, mouza Pashim Barkhetri in Gauhati subdivision and searched the houses of Sri Hare Ram Boro and Kharje Ram Boro and extorted Rs.200 from them ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that Sri Hare Ram Boro and Kharje Ram Boro filed petition before the Excise Minister and the Excise Commissioner, Assam, Shillong, against those Officers ?

(c) If so, what is the fate of those petitions ?

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) replied :

57. (a), (b) & (c).—Yes, petitions from one Hare Ram Boro of Kuhartery-Lachima, police station Hajo alleging a visit to the village and extortion by one Excise Assistant Sub-Inspector and three Peons were received by the Minister-in-charge of the

Excise Department and the Excise Commissioner and forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup, for enquiry. Report from the Deputy Commissioner has not yet been received.

Settlement of Land within the Tribal belt of North Lakhimpur Subdivision

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU asked :

58. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) How many families had been given settlement of land within the Tribal belt of North Lakhimpur Subdivision from the year 1947-48 up to 31st March, 1954 ?
- (b) How many of them are Tribals, Nepalis and Scheduled Castes and how many others ?
- (c) Whether Government are aware that the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur, has been allotting lands falling within the Tribal belt of his subdivision to the non-tribal people living outside the Tribal belt ?
- (d) Whether Government have received any representation from the Tribal people against such action taken by the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur ?
- (e) If so, what step has been taken against the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur for making discrimination between the tribal people and non-tribal people at the time of allotment of lands within the Tribal belts ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

58. (a)—1,109 families have been provided with land since 1947-48.

(b)—512 tribal, 180 Nepali, 110 Scheduled caste, and 307 other castes families who are flood and erosion affected.

(c)—307 families of other castes as mentioned above who were flood and erosion affected were provided with land in the tribal belt under Section 163 (2) (d) of the Assam Land and Revenue Regulation with the approval of the Land Settlement Advisory Board.

(d) & (e)—Yes, some representations were received from some Deuri families of Bor-Deorigaon. On enquiry from Subdivisional Officer it was found that the Deuri families most of whom already had sufficient lands forcibly occupied the patta lands of some non-tribal persons in Joypur Pichala village of Narayanpur, Kherajkhat mouza and started *pam* cultivation there and this resulted in some tension. The Subdivisional Officer went to the locality with the Sub-Deputy Collector, Circle Inspector of Police and the Officer-in-charge, Bihpuria police station and with the help of the local Mauzadar worked out a compromise formula to the terms of which the representatives of both the parties agreed. According to the terms of the agreement some Deuries have actually vacated the land but six families are still continuing in their unlawful possession against the terms of agreement. The Subdivisional Officer has been asked to enforce the terms of the agreement to which the parties had voluntarily agreed.

**Procedure for allotment of land to Miri families of
Bholukaguri Mirigaon of Mohura Mauza in
Golaghat Subdivision**

Shri MAL CHANDRA PEGU asked :

59. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) How many Miri families of Bholukaguri-Mirigaon of Mohura Mauza in Golaghat subdivision have been allotted land till now at Nepali Khuti Madhupur Seat, Bokakhat Mouza in Golaghat subdivision and when ?

(b) Whether Pattas were issued to the allottees ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that the neighbouring non-Miri local people began giving disturbance to the Miris (allottees) as soon as the Miris were allotted lands at the said place ?

(d) How many times the Miri allottees did make representation to the Subdivisional Officer of Golaghat Subdivision against the non-Miri neighbouring local people who constantly gave disturbance to the peaceful possession of the Miris ?

(e) What step was taken by the Subdivisional Officer on the strength of the representation made to him by the Miris ?

- (f) Whether it is a fact that the annual Pattas given to the Miris have been cancelled by the Sub-Deputy Collector, Dergaon Circle ?
- (g) If so, when and to whom non-renewal notices were served prior to the cancellation of the Pattas ?
- (h) What are the reasons assigned for cancellation of the Pattas ?
- (i) On what dates the non-renewal notices were received by the Pattaholders ?
- (j) Whether it is a fact that the Pattas had to be cancelled on the advice of the Lot Mondol, Sri Bhola-nath Thakur ?
- (k) Whether it is a fact that the non-Miri neighbouring people began demarcation of boundaries at their own accord on the land in question at the direction of the said Lot Mondol and Sub-Deputy Collector, Dergaon Circle, Sri Bajrai, without the land being settled with them ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

59.(a)—Twenty-four flood affected Miri families of Bholukaguri in Mahura Mauza were allotted 170 B. 1K. 4L. of land in Nepali Khuti village in Bokakhat Mauza and settlement orders were passed on 21st January, 1951.

(b)—The annual Pattas were duly issued in the supplementary (Dariabadi) settlement of 1950-51.

(c)—Yes some local people encroached on the land.

(d)—The Miri allottees made some representations to Subdivisional Officer, Golaghat.

(e)—When encroachment takes place on settled lands it is upto the settlement holders to approach the Criminal or Civil Court for restoration of possession. As the allottees in this case took such steps the Subdivisional Officer as a last resort cancelled the Pattas in order to eject the unauthorised occupants under Settlement Rule 18.

(f)—Yes, it was decree under the orders of Subdivisional Officer for reasons stated in (e) above.

(g)—The non-renewal notices were served on the settlement holders in the year 1953-54.

(h) & (i)—The non-renewal notices could not be traced and hence the reasons assigned for cancellation of the Pattas and the dates on which they were received cannot be given.

(j)—No.

(k)—No.

Representations for cattle loan from various flood affected areas of North Lakhimpur Subdivision

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA asked :

60. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether he has lately received representations from various flood-affected areas of the North Lakhimpur Subdivision including one resolution adopted in a public meeting held on 17th October, 1954 at Jamuguri in Dhalpur Mouza—praying for early sanction of cattle loans to enable the people to cultivate their lands after their severe loss of cattle due to floods and epidemics ?

(b) Whether the Subdivisional Officer, North Lakhimpur, also having received numerous applications for loans and having exhausted the amount sanctioned already moved the Government for a further amount of Rs.50,000 ?

(c) If so, whether Government have sanctioned the amount asked for or any amount to relieve the scarcity of plough cattle in the Subdivision ?

(d) If not, whether Government are considering any other measure to furnish these needy cultivators with funds to purchase plough cattle at this most emergent season of cultivation ?

(e) If so, what are those measures ?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :—

60. (a)—Government have received some representations.

(b)—Yes.

(c) to (e)—An agricultural loan of Rs.1,13,000 has already been sanctioned for North Lakhimpur Subdivision which includes Rs.68,000 as cattle loan. As such, Government do not consider it necessary to sanction any further cattle loan for North Lakhimpur Subdivision at this stage.

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA: With regard to (c) and (e), will the Government be pleased to take into consideration the extensiveness and the frequency of flood disasters in North Lakhimpur?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister): That is always taken into consideration at the time of distribution of loans in all places, Sir.

Shortage of food stuffs in the riverine areas of North-Lakhimpur Subdivision and Majuli on account of flood

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY asked :

61. (a) Will the Supply Minister be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the fact that due to the damages of paddy caused by the floods and insects, a large number of people residing in the riverine areas of North Lakhimpur Subdivision and Majuli are suffering from the acute shortage of food stuffs?

(b) If so, what action, if any, has been taken to give relief to the distressed people?

Shri MOTIRAM BORA (Minister) replied :

61. (a)—Government received reports of food shortage in the riverine areas of North Lakhimpur and Majuli during and immediately after last year's devastating floods.

(b)—For North Lakhimpur Subdivision Government have already sanctioned 15,000 mds. of paddy for issue at concessional rate and a subsidy of Rs.55,000 has been sanctioned to meet the loss. Besides, 666 mds. of gift food grains have been allotted for free distribution and Rs.75,000 sanctioned for Test Relief Works.

In Majuli area, 4,000 mds. of paddy and 1,336 mds., 10 srs. of rice issued at concessional rate and 288 mds., 30 srs. of rice, valued at Rs.5,323 issued on loan bonds. A total subsidy of Rs.31,965 has been sanctioned to meet the loss. Besides, Rs.10,000 sanctioned for Test Relief Works and some quantity of gift food grains allotted for free distribution. At present there is no report that food scarcity is prevailing in Majuli area.

Lower Primary School Teachers

Shri JOGAKANTA BARUAH asked :

62. Will the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether any attempt was made to examine the merits of Lower Primary School Teachers ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) replied :

62.—Yes. Below a certain standard—all teachers have to appear in a test for judging their merits.

Shri JOGAKANTA BARUAH : Will Government be pleased to state what is the procedure with the old teachers who cannot pass the test examination ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : Sir, their experience and old age are taken into consideration.

Number of villages allotted to a Mandal

Shri JOGAKANTA BARUAH asked :

63. Will the Revenue Minister be pleased to state—

(a) The number of villages generally allotted to a Mandal ?

(b) The number of villages allotted to a Mandal at Tingkhong Mouza, Nahorkatia Circle Dibrugarh ?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister) replied :

63. (a)—The number of villages allotted to a Mandal varies from 7 to 52 according to the number of Dags and work involved.

(b)—In Tingkhong Mouza, the lots contain the following number of villages—

Lot No. 1	...	...	...	...	36	villages
Lot No. 2	...	...	...	...	42	"
Lot No. 3	...	...	...	...	35	"
Lot No. 4	...	...	...	...	52	"
Lot No. 5	...	...	...	...	41	"

Shri JOGAKANTA BARUAH: Is not the number of 52 villages too big for efficient management by one Mandal?

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Deputy Minister): That number is not just on the number of villages but it is on the area, because one village may consist of 10 families and the other 100 families.

Havoc created due to change of course of the Dikrong river

Shri SARVESWAR BORUWA asked:

64. Will the Minister-in-charge of Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware of the recent change of course by the Dikrong river devastating the most thickly populated and prosperous part of the Laluk Mouza, viz., Menoha, Bangalmora, Islampur, Kutabpur, Sonapur, Khora and Sandhakhoa, etc., severely breaching the Laluk-Islampur Local Board Road and seriously threatening a considerable length of the North Trunk Road ; and

(b) If so, whether Government are taking any steps for the protection of those villages by stemming the course of that turbulent river ?

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): replied.

64. (a)—Yes.

(b)—A bund 1,500' long has already been constructed by the people of the locality under test relief to stop the Dikrong spill entering into the Menoha river. The breach on the old North Trunk Road is also being closed as a short term measure this year to afford protection to the villages. The Investigation Division working under the direct control of the Central Water and Power Commission has been entrusted with the survey of the river and collection of necessary hydrological data for formulation of a long term scheme.

Sriman PRAFULLA GOS-
WAMI asked:

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA replied:

65. Will the Minister-in-charge of
Co-operative be pleased to state—

65. (a) (b), & (c)—

Serial No.	Name of Societies	Name and designation of defaulters	Year and date	Steps taken by the Department to realise the amount
1	Pub-Barbhag Trading Co- operative, Ltd.	Shyama Prasad Bora, Ex-Secretary.	8th July 1950	A case under 409, Indian Penal Code was instituted against the defaulter. It is pending in Court.
2	Pachim Khata Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Pratap Ch. Ex-Secretary.	Datta, 3rd Sept. 1952	Do.
3	Dhandama Consumer Co- operative Stores, Ltd.	(1) Madhab Ch. Burma, Ex-Chairman. (2) Khagendranath Bo- ra, Ex-Secretary.	12th April 1949 7th July 1947	Do. Do.
4	Damadardham Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.	Pratap Ch. Choudhury, Secretary.	8th April 1950	A case under 409, Indian Penal Code instituted against the defaulter. The amount has since been realised and the accused convicted.
5	Pub-Pokowa Trading Co- operative, Ltd.	Harimulla Deka, Secre- tary.	30th Sept. 1952	A case under 409, Indian Penal Code was instituted. It is pending in Court.

(a) Names of the persons with designa-
tion and names of the Co-operative
Societies whose funds were either
defalcated, misappropriated or
cash kept in hand without proper
deposit since under Nalbari circle
of the Co-operative Department
(information is wanted from the
year 1942) ?

(b) From what date the cash in hand is kept by such persons?

6 Gopalpur Trading Co-operative, Ltd. Nandaram Kalita, Secretary. 10th April 1953 A case under 409, Indian Penal Code was instituted. It is pending in Court.

(c) What steps the Co-operative Department is taking to realise the cash in hand from these persons?

7 Sandheli Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd. Krishnam Kalita, 23rd May 1950 Do. Secretary.

8 Dhamdharna Trading Co-operative, Ltd. (1) Krishna Kanta Deka, 22nd July 1951 Secretary. Do. (2) Sorendra Nath Talukdar, Ex-Secretary. 13th May 1950 (3) Baliram Deka, 27th July 1951 Ex-Manager. (4) Azam Ali Mahajan, 27th July 1951 Treasurer.

9 Pachim Barigog Pub-par, Consumer Co-operative Store. Daya Ram Kalita .. 25th March 1948 A case under 409, Indian Penal Code was instituted. The final charge sheet has not yet been submitted to the court by the Police.

10 Pub-Kacharimahal Trading Co-operative, Ltd. Suryya Kanta Nath 18th Jan. 1952 A case under 409, Indian Penal Code was instituted and also an arbitration case under section 63 of the Co-operative Societies Act, 1950, was filed. The case is pending in court.

Serial No.	Name of Societies	Name and designation of defaulters	Year and date	Steps taken by the Department to realise the amount
11	Khetri Dharmapara Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	(1) Bhuvan Ch. Talukdar, Secretary. (2) Kamini Mohan Goswami.	29th Dec. 1952	Pending in court.
12	Niz-Namati Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	(1) Kali Kanta Deka, Secretary. (2) Baroram, Member Treasurer.	14th May 1953 ..	Do.
13	Pub-Barigog Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Chandiram Manager. Kalita,	16th Aug. 1952 ..	Do.
14	Madhyam Barbhog Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Kabi Ch. Talukdar, Secretary.	16th Aug. 1952 ..	Sanction for prosecution has been accorded but the person at fault has since paid the defalcated amount.
15	Pachim Pakowa Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	(1) Jogeswar Sarma, Secretary. (2) Dharamdhar Deka, Manager.	30th June 1952 ..	The misappropriated amount has since been realised and no further action was taken.
16	Mathibaba Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	(1) Rajendranath Deka, Manager. (2) Hora Kanta Bhattacharjya, Chairman.	22nd Nov. 1952 ..	(1) Sanction to prosecute the offender has been accorded. (2) Notice has been served to pay the defalcated amount.

(d) What is the maximum amount allowed to be kept as cash in hand by the office bearers of a Co-operative Society?

(d)_j—In case of Trading Co-operatives the maximum limit of keeping cash with the office bearer is Rs.250 and in case of other types of societies the limit is not uniformed. It is decided in the General meeting.

(e) Whether Government are aware or received reports to the effect that the present staff of the Co-operative Department at Nalbari is helping and abetting to defalcate or misappropriate public money in the Co-operative Society?

(e)_j—One such representation was received, but on enquiry it was found not correct that the present staff of Nalbari was helping and abetting to defalcate or misappropriate

(f) If not, whether Government will make a thorough enquiry and take drastic steps?

(f)_j—Does not arise.

(g) Whether Government are aware that the present Co-operative Inspectors posted at Nalbari give time to the persons to refund the amount defalcated by them instead of taking legal steps at once to prosecute them in spite of complaint from the share holders and public?

(g)_j—No. As soon as a case of defalcation is detected a registered notice is served upon the defaulter to pay up the amount within a specific date failing which steps are taken to prosecute the defaulter.

Serial

No.	Name of persons with designation	Names of Co-operative Societies	Terms of convictions
66. (a)	The name of the persons who have been convicted (stating the term of conviction) in a court of law for misappropriation or defalcations of money in the Co-operative Societies upto the present date from 1947 in the Kamrup district?		
	(b) How many such cases are pending before the court with name of persons and number of case and date from which the case is pending in the district of Kamrup?		
66. (a)	1 Pratap Ch. Patowary, Secretary.	Damodardham Consumer Co-operative Store, Ltd.	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs.40 in default of which one month Simple Imprisonment.
2	Mahinath Sarma, Ex-Secretary.	Pachim Ram Charan Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Fined Rs.5, dated 23rd March 1951.
3	Ram Ch. Das, Secretary.	Champaknaga Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Fined Rs.100.
4	Krishna Kanta Sarma, Manager.	Raibari Co-operative Stores, Ltd.	Rigorous Imprisonment for one day.
(b)—1	Shyma Prasad Bora, Ex-Secretary.	Pub-Bharbhag Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Pending in court the date since the cases are pending are being collected.
2	Pratab Ch. Dutta, Ex-Secretary.	Pachimkhata Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.
3	Madhab Ch. Barma, Ex-Chairman.	Dhamdhoma Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.	Do.
4	Khagendra Nath Bora, Ex-Secretary.	Do.	Do.
5	Harimalla Deka, Secretary.	Pub-Pokowa Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.
6	Nand Ram Kalita, Secretary.	Gopalpur Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.
7	Krishna Ram Kalita, Secretary.	Sandheli Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.	Do.
8	Krishna Kanta Deka, Secretary.	Dhamdhama Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.
9	Surendra Nath Talukdar, Ex-Secretary.	Do.	Do.
10	Baliram Deka, Ex-Secretary.	Do.	Do.
11	Azan Ali Mahajan, Treasurer.	Do.	Do.
12	Surjyo Kanta Nath, Ex-Secretary.	Pub-Kacharimahal Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.
13	Bhuban Ch. Talukdar, Secretary.	Khatri Dharmapur Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.

14	Kamini Mahan Goswami	..	Khetri Dharmapur Co-operative, Ltd.	Trading	Pending in Court.
15	Kali Kanta Deka, Secretary	..	Niz-Namati Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Co-operative	Pending in Court, date of pending cannot be ascertained.
16	Baroram, Member, Treasurer	..	Niz-Namati Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Co-operative	Do.
17	Upendra Nath Bhorali, Treasurer,		Goneswar Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Co-operative	Do.
18	Bharat Ch. Chaudhury, Ex-Chairman.		Puthimari Public Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Co-operative	Do.
19	Sansit Ram Bharali Kayastha, Ex-Treasurer and Manager.		Puthimari Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Co-operative	Do.
20	Tarini Charan Kalita, Branch Secretary.		Pachim Ramcharan, Public Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Public Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Do.
21	Lakshmi Kanta Mahanta, Branch Secretary.		Do.	Do.	Do.
22	Rajdhar Medhi, Branch Secretary.		Do.	Do.	Do.
23	Bipin Ch. Kalita, Ex-Secretary		Do.	Do.	Do.
24	Mathura Ram Das	..	..	..	..
25	Kamaleswar Medhi	..	..	..	..
26	Akhil Ch. Sarma, Ex-Secretary		Raha Public Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	24th March 1953.
27	Kandarpa Nath Deka, Ex-Secretary.		Sarthebari Trading Co-operative, Ltd.	Co-operative	20th Oct. 1953.
28	Keshab Das, Ex-Manager	..	Cloth and Yarn Dealer Wholesale Society Ltd.,	Wholesale Society Ltd.,	23rd September 1954 (Barpeta).
29	Harekrishna Das, Ex-Assistant Manager.		Do.	Do.	..

(c)—Nil.

(c) How many cases of defalcation and mis-appropriation of money belonging to Co-operative Societies are pending in the hands of Police in Nalbari.

(d)—Nil.

(d) How many cases of mis-appropriation and defalcation of money belonging to Co-operative Societies have not yet been reported to Police in Nalbari Circle from 1947 till now?

(e)—Does not arise.

(e) Why such cases are not reported to the Police?

67. (a) Name of the Co-operative Societies that have been gone under liquidation in Nalbari Circle from 1951 to 1954?

NAMES OF LIQUIDATED SOCIETIES SINCE 1951 to 1954

1. Popular Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
2. Bezara Central Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
3. Dhobatani Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

4. Uttar Baska Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
5. Dakhin Pokwoa-Balijam Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
6. Rangabali Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
7. Chengnoi Consumers Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
8. Rajkadamtal Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
9. Pub-Nalbari Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
10. Pachim-Pokowa Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
11. Pachim-Khata Mouza Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
12. Pub-Pokowa Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
13. Barangahati Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
14. Damodardham Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
15. Kanbaha Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
16. Pub-Balijani Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
17. Bahjani Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

18. Rangia Primary Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
19. Gobardal Consumer Co-operative, Ltd.
20. Bagurihati Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
21. Baliyar Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
22. Guakuchi Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
23. Namati Nathkuchi Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
24. Garbhita Co-operative Consumer Stores, Ltd.
25. Banshi Udaypur Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
26. Purna Kamdev Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
27. Pachim Barbhag Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

22. Mukulmua United Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

29. Sandha Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

30. Jagara Co-operative Central Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

31. Dakhin Dangargaon Primary Trading Co-operative, Ltd.

32. Bihampur Consumer Stores, Ltd.

33. Nalbari Circle, Mondal Kanangoos Co-operative Bank, Ltd.

34. Kumarpara Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

Total—34 Societies under liquidation.

(b) Who is the liquidator appointed now?

(b)—Md. Siddique Hussain,
D. C. O.

(c) What are the Societies that are not yet liquidated but under liquidations?
(c) —List of the Societies is given below—

LIST OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES NOT YET LIQUIDATED BUT UNDER LIQUIDATION IN NAL-BARI CIRCLE

1. Athgharia G. B.
2. Kathalbari G. B.
3. Nardi G. B.
4. Nagarkuchi G. B.
5. Bangalmar G. B.
6. Balitara G. B.
7. Makhibaha G. B.
8. Barama G. B.
9. Atta Samabay Samity
10. Jangog Co-operative Society
11. Mugkuchi Co-operative Society
12. Cultivators Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
13. Ganga Rukhmi Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
14. Katpuha Co-operative Consumer Stores, Ltd.

15. Belsor Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
16. Kaithalkuchi Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
17. Kakaya Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
18. Barkuniha Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
19. Pokowa United Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
20. Pandula Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
21. Bangaon Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
22. Popular Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
23. Begara United Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
24. Dhobatani Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
25. Uttar Baskar Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
26. Dakhin, Pokowa, Balijani Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
27. Rangabali Co-operative Consumer Stores, Ltd.
28. Changnoi Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

29. Rajkadamtal Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
30. Pub-Nalhati Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
31. Pachim-Pokowa Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
32. Pachim Khata Mauza Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
33. Pub-Pakowa Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
34. Barangahati Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
35. Damadardham Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
36. Kanbaha Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
37. Pub-Balijani Co-operative Stores, Ltd.;
38. Balijani Co-operative Stores, Ltd.

39. Rangia Trading Co-operative, Ltd.
40. Gobardal Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
41. Bagsrihati Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
42. Balizar Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
43. Guakuchi Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
44. Namati Nath Kuchi Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
45. Garbhita Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
46. Banshi Udaypur Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
47. Purna Kamdev Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
48. Mukurmar United Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
49. Pachim Bambhag Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
50. Sandha Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
51. Jagara Co-operative Central Stores, Ltd.
52. Dakhin-Dangargaon Primary Trading Co-operative, Ltd.

53. Bihampur Consumer Co-operative Stores, Ltd.
54. Nalbari Circle Mondal Kana-
goos Co-operative Bank.
55. Kamarpara Co-operative Stores,
Ltd.

Total No. 55.

68. (a) Whether any honorary Co-operative Officers are appointed or not?

(b) If so, who are they?

(c) If not whether Government propose to appoint such to hold the Co-operative Movement?

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—No.

Statement by the Leader of the House re: the termination of the Session on the 25th March, 1955

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): Sir, I would like to make a suggestion after my discussion with the Leader of the Opposition that the business on the 26th may be brought in, if possible, before the House after question hour and some may be taken up after the demand is passed on the 25th so that we can complete them on that day.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Sir, I discussed this matter with the Leader of the House and although I agreed now, I want to point out one thing, *viz.*, the questions which are already ready, if they are allowed to remain, then the topical value of the questions will be lost. I appreciate the difficulties of the Leader of the House, but if on 26th we sit for half an hour and dispose of these questions, it will be better.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): If necessary, if on any important questions my Friends want to get the informations, then with the Speaker's permission I can send replies to them.

Mr. SPEAKER: If you want any particular question answered, it may be sent to you, I have no objection.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: As an alternative suggestion, if we sit tomorrow beyond 4 P. M., for the Appropriation Bill has got to be passed, in that case the questions which will be ready for 26th may be placed before the House on the 25th.

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister): অবশ্যে প্রশ্নের দিয়া যিমানখিনি সম্ভবপর হয়, যিমানখিনি হে কালি দিব পৰা হব।

Draft Amendment to Assembly Rules

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Parliamentary Secretary): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Committee formed under Assembly Rule 131 to consider the draft amendment to Assembly Rule 128B (2) and to move that the draft amendment be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that the draft amendment to Assembly Rule 128B (2) be taken into consideration.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House, and was adopted).

Shri MOHI KANTA DAS (Parliamentary Secretary) :
I beg to move that the draft amendment to Assembly Rule 128B (2) be adopted.

Mr. SPEAKER : Motion moved is that the draft amendment to Assembly Rule 128B (2) be adopted.

(The Motion was then put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : Under Assembly Rule 133, I hereby announce that I have signed a copy of the amendment to Assembly Rule 128B(2) which has just now been adopted by the House. This will come into effect immediately.

Fixation of time for the election of one Member to the Estimates Committee

Mr. SPEAKER : As an additional member to the Estimates Committee will now have to be elected, I hereby fix 4-30 P.M. today as the time and date by which the Members who are willing to be candidates for election should intimate their desire to the Secretary by writing.

The Assam Tea Plantations Provident Fund Scheme Bill, 1955

Mr. SPEAKER : Now we shall take up the consideration of the Assam Tea Plantations Provident Fund Scheme Bill, 1955, clause by clause. But there is no amendment.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as there is no amendment, I beg to move that the Assam Tea Plantations Provident Fund Scheme Bill, 1955 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : Motion moved is that the Assam Tea Plantations Provident Fund Scheme Bill, 1955 be passed.

(After a pause)

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and adopted).

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must congratulate the Members of this House for having co-operated with the Government in passing this important piece of legislation. As a matter of fact, the other day while I moved this Bill for consideration, the Leader of the Opposition, Shri Goswami, congratulated the Government for having introduced this Bill. He also mentioned that the definition of plantation with regard to 25 acres should be reduced to 10 acres. We examined this question and found that there are almost no tea gardens worth the name with 10 acres of land and even with 25 acres there are only few tea gardens in our State. As such there is no necessity for reducing this acreage.

The Leader of the Opposition suggested that the rate of contribution should be increased. We examined this question also and it was found that in the Coal Mines Provident Fund Act, the rate of contribution is $\frac{1}{18}$ of the basic earning. It means that the labourer is eligible to one anna contribution per rupee. But the contribution in the case of the tea plantation labour is higher. As such there is no necessity for increasing the rate of contribution at present. Let us gain experience by this Act. The Employees Provident Fund Scheme was introduced only in 1952 by the Central Government and by this scheme has ensured benefit to about 5 lakhs of labourers. Here also under this legislation, 5 lakhs of plantation labourers who were so long outside the scope of the Provident Fund will now be benefited. As a matter of fact, this is the first time in the history of plantation labour that this benefit has been introduced. No other State in India has come forward with a similar Bill. I therefore congratulate the Members of the House for having co-operated with me in the passing of this important legislation.

Demands for Grants

Grant No.23

43—INDUSTRIES AND SUPPLIES—I—SERICULTURE AND WEAVING

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.22,10,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving".

Mr. SPEAKER: Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.22,10,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray certain charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving".

Shri RADHACHARAN CHOUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.67,000 under Grant No.23, Major head 43.—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving, Minor head—Development Schemes (Five-Year Plan), Sub-head E-2—I.—Farm Organisation (total), at page 234 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.22,10,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

My intention of moving this Cut Motion is to criticise the Government for failure to open sericultural farms in deserving areas. Here I may refer only to my own place. We know that the southern border of the Kamrup district is inhabited by tribal people and from their primitive days they have been growing Eri and Muga, but till now they have received no help, no facility from the Government. It is well known that the present Muga cloth of Sualkuchi and the Eri cloth of Rampur and its surroundings are the products of Eri and Muga produced in these areas. These tribal people growing Eri and Muga, till now have not received any help from the Government. Most of these people are landless and their economic life is mainly dependent on this industry. Every year they are to grow these Eri and Muga, but for want of facility, for want of seed in time, they sometimes fail to grow them for a year or so and this greatly affects their economic life. Sir, if only some impetus and facilities were given to these people, they would have developed these industries in a more better and scientific way. But even they have not been able to develop these silk industries or any other industry. So, Sir, by moving this Cut Motion, I want to draw the pointed attention of the Government that a sericultural farm should be opened and all facilities should be given to these people through such farms. Here I refer to one place on the hill side, e.g., Hahim, or any site near Boko Thana where a farm can be established. I request Government to see whether they can open a sericultural farm here so as to benefit the people of the surrounding areas. I hope that Government will consider these points.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the provision of Rs. 67,000 under Grant No.23, Major head 43—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving, Minor head—Development Scheme (Five-Year Plan), Sub-head E-2.—I—Farm Organisation (total), at page 234 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.22,10,800 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is known to all hon. Members that here Assam enjoys a unique position with regard to sericulture and weaving, and we are trying our level best to improve this industry in our State. To improve the silk industry we have been giving all sorts of facilities to individuals who are interested in this industry, in the form of loans or subsidies. My Friend has drawn my attention to the area from which he comes. I do not know whether any one from his area has received any subsidy up till now. But I will look into it.

Now, Sir, my Friend, Mr. Choudhury, wants that a sericultural farm be established in his area, but he should know that we cannot establish sericultural farms everywhere and anywhere. We shall have to depend on the climatic condition, on the temperature, humidity, etc., of the area. For the information of hon. Members I will give the number of farms we have now in our State. We have got 10 silk farms at Titabar, Gaurisagar, Senchua, Mangaldai, Khanapara, Sualkuchi, Shillong, Jowai, Diphu and Aijal. There is also a proposal for starting one farm at Agia in Goalpara. Then we have also 4 Eri seed centres at Haflong, Musalpur, Kokrajhar and Dhembhanga. And there is a proposal to start one Eri seed centre at North Lakhimpur.

Besides this, Sir, under the Second Five-Year Plan we have got proposal to open more farms and Eri seed training units. I am glad to inform the hon. Members that from our farms it has been possible to meet our demands up to the extent of 90 per cent and the remaining 10 per cent can be met by extending the existing farms and starting new ones.

Sir, I think, I need not add anything more, but I can assure my Friend, Mr. Choudhury, that I shall see whether in future we can open a farm in his area by examining all possibilities because, as I have said, establishment of such farms will depend on the climatic condition of the locality, temperature and humidity.

So, after hearing what I have said, I hope my Friend will see his way to withdraw his Cut Motion.

Shri RADHACHARAN CHOUDHURY : Yes, Sir, I withdraw my Cut Motion.

(The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn).

The question is that a sum of Rs.22,10,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "43—Industries and Supplies—I—Sericulture and Weaving".

(The Motion was adopted).

Grant No. 24

43—Industries and Supply—II—Cottage Industries

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.18,11,300 (Rupees eighteen lakhs, eleven thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "43—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.18,11,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "43—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries".

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.18,11,300 under Grant No.24, Major head 43—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries, at page 249 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.18,11,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

My object is to criticise the failure of the Government to increase employment scope in the cottage industry sector and improve this. As we know, Sir, in Assam we have got no industry worth mentioning, I mean big or large scale industries. And even under the Five-Year Plan we have not been able to provide for development of such big industries. On the other hand, we know there is a pressure of the people on land which has resulted in growing unemployment in our State. Therefore, the only remedy, the only panacea to the whole problem to-day is to encourage growth of cottage industries. Although we find some industries have been allotted some money, what we feel is that this amount is really very small. Secondly, even though there are certain existing industries where help should be given in liberal manner so as to enable them to meet the growing demand in our State, as for instance, the demand of tea gardens in the shape of spades, pruning knives, etc., it has not be done. On the other hand, we find that vast amount of money is always drained out from the State of Assam to outside on this score. Here is a field where we can encourage and develop our cottage industries for the supply of these implements to the tea gardens, thereby we will not only stop this drainage of money from the State to outside, but also increase employment avenues to our people. Here we find, in Black-smithy, in page 251, only Rs.21,752 has been allotted. Then also regarding nail making and some such things, there also we have not allotted enough money.

If we try to tap the sources and increase the possibilities of those sources then we will be able to give more employment and opportunities to our people. We should not only try to see how we can meet the demands for the products of a particular industry but also we should see how we can bring a section of our people under employment in such cottage industries. It will then not only give employment to some people but it will also enable the partially employed people to supplement their income and that approach is all along very necessary. As far as I have found in the Budget as well as in the names mentioned here, that enough has not been done and therefore more should be done on these lines. Recently, my Friend, Srijut Mahendra Mohan Chaudhury, went to Japan and China and he has come back with certain ideas. As he is no longer a Minister now, his ideas can be taken advantage of, that is to say, his experience in Japan and China can well be taken advantage of. I know that many valuable articles from bamboo

straw and cane are made in Japan by their experts. They have got also toy making industry which is very famous. In Japan there is also paper making industry which is equally famous. These industries should also be introduced in our State, particularly in some hill areas where it is possible to develop them. If we do so then we will be able to give more employment and scope to our people and we will be able to help some people to supplement their income as well.

Now I want to make a mention about carpentry not for the purpose of having furniture alone but also for producing certain artistic articles. Recently, I had been to a place in Dibrugarh called Kathalguri where I found a man making certain products like Tamul-Bata with wood. If we allow the people to develop this industry as in Kashmir and some other places then the product will surely fetch good prices and bring more money to our people. In this connection I would like to mention that we have opened some emporia in the State. But some emporia are not yet functioning. We have an emporium at Sualkuchi, but this has not yet started functioning. We have made some products without good finishing. If finishing is taught and marketing facilities are made available, we will do well in this sector.

There is a certain type of bamboo in Naga Hills which is very good for making certain nice articles like flower vase, tools, etc. We should try to develop this industry also which will bring more credit to our State of Assam.

So, Sir, I request the Minister-in-charge to see that the industries I have mentioned as well as those industries known to him are developed. We have no industries worth the name excepting one or two only. Sir, if we introduce some cottage industries then we shall be able to give some employment to at least those people who are remaining practically unemployed.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.18,11,300 under Grant No. 24, Major head 43.—Industries and Supplies—II—Cottage Industries, at page 249 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.18,11,300 do stand reduced by Re.1.

***Shri A. S. KHONGPHAI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just like to speak a few words only on this Motion.

I am thankful to Mr. Goswami for bringing this Cut Motion. I spoke the other day that we should make the village people worth living. So, the people in the villages should have the same standard of living as in the town. If we can develop cottage industries in the villages also then we can make the village people worth living.

My Friend has mentioned that some of the cottage industries are more profitable, but he has not mentioned some such industries which are remaining undeveloped in the hill areas.

I have seen in some parts of India making bamboo chairs and some kind of 'Murhas' in such a way that if that is encouraged then the people making them shall be able to supplement their income to a great extent not only in those places but everywhere in Assam. I have seen people making very good kind of 'Murhas', but on the other hand this industry is gradually dying out for want of encouragement. I am afraid that if timely help is not forthcoming for the type of those industries of our people then the future of such industries in Assam is dark. I can show the hon. Members of the House the samples of some of the products of cottage industries here in the Shillong Barabazar. The people making those products need encouragement.

There are many kinds of industries through which employment can be given to our people. Apart from the development plans under Article 275, I hope the Minister-in-charge will please try to see so that some help or encouragement is given to those cottage industries.

With these words, Sir, I support the Motion.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to my Friend, Mr. Goswami, for giving me a chance to explain the steps taken from Government side in the matter.

The hon. Members know well that during the foreign regime the circumstances were not favourable for developing our cottage industries. But now, after the attainment of Independence, the Central Government as well as the

State Governments have turned their attention towards development of those industries in right earnest. Sir, it is a fact that from the Government side all possible measures have been taken to qualify our people in cottage industries by giving them necessary training and then to give them scope for employment. I will give a list of the measures that have been taken by the Government at present. I do not know whether the hon. Mover of the Cut Motion knows them all. However, for the information of all the hon. Members of the House, including the Mover of the Cut Motion, I will give a list of the measures undertaken by the Government.

There are as many as 22 schemes which are under implementation and these are:—

- (1) Government Soap Factory and Training Institute, Gauhati.
- (2) Oil Expeller Demonstration.
- (3) Oil Crushing Industry.
- (4) Nail Making Industry.
- (5) Bee-keeping.
- (6) Handmade Paper Industry.
- (7) Umbrella Handle Making Industry.
- (8) Furniture Making Institute.
- (9) Cottage Industries Institute.
- (10) Building for Government Soap Factory and Training Institute.
- (11) Ghani Industry.
- (12) Bell-metal Industry.
- (13) Black-smithy and Carpentry and Wood Work.
- (14) Mat Weaving and Sital Pati Making.
- (15) Village Pottery.
- (16) Doll and Toy Making Industry.

- (17) Development of Lac Industry.
- (18) Ghani Industries in Community Project Areas.
- (19) Removal of untouchability for training in Tannery and Leather.
- (20) Stipends for training in Cottage Industries inside and outside this State.
- (21) Grants-in-aid to individual and Non-official Cottage Industrial Enterprises.
- (22) Industrial loan.

Sir, I think the list I have given covers all the items stated by my Friend, Mr. Goswami. Recently we have started an Industrial Training Institute at Gauhati for training in four craft trades, *i. e.*, bamboo and cane works, leather works, carpentry and wood work and blacksmithy. Arrangement is also being made to take up more trades. At present there are 31 students undergoing training. Besides this, two training institutes in Community Project areas in Darrang and Cachar are being established for giving training in different crafts. To give specialised training in carpentry and blacksmithy, a training institute is being started at Barpeta where accommodation for 25 students have been made.

Over and above this, two candidates of the Assam Co-operative Bell-Metal, Utensil Manufacturing Society, Sarthebari have been trained at Madras in bell-metal works. An umbrella handle making centre has been started at Dudhnoi to give training to the people of Garo Hills where a lot of suitable bamboos for this purpose is available. The Shellac Factory at Chaparmukh which has been established for the purpose of giving benefit to the Mikir lac producers is also arranging training in shellac manufacture. Sital Patty and mat weaving, village pottery, doll and toy making centres have been started during the year and are contemplated to be expanded in the coming year. The Government Paper Institute, Shillong, is imparting training in hand-made paper making, book binding, etc., and up till now 16 students besides those deputed by the Relief and Rehabilitation Department have been trained. With regard to bee-keeping industry, 12 demonstrators for bee-keeping in the autonomous hill districts are propagating the industry among the rural people and the training institute at Shillong has so far trained 26 students in the industry.

Sir, the Department has granted industrial loans to individuals to the extent of Rs.3,17,538 in the current year as against 1,20,000 during 1953-54 for the development of various cottage industries. I may inform the hon. Members that the Budget provision for industrial activities was Rs.70,000 in 1951-52, but this has now gone up to Rs.6,62,600 in 1954-55. From this I think the hon. Members will be able to realise that we have been trying to make more provisions in the Budget for development of cottage industries in the State from year to year.

Sir, I hope in view of what I have stated, the hon. Member will be pleased to withdraw his Cut Motion.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs.18,11,300 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“43.—Industries and Supplies—11.—Cottage Industries.”

(The Motion was adopted)

Grant No.17

38.—Medical

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) : Mr Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.70,48,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“38.—Medical.”

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.70,48,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“38.—Medical.”

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs.15,78,388, under Grant No.17, Major head—38.—Medical, Minor head—B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries (total), at page 128 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.70,48,600 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, my intention in moving this Cut Motion is to raise a discussion about the management of the hospitals and dispensaries of the Government. We have seen that Government have undertaken to provincialise some district hospitals sometime ago, but even after three or four years since then, the scheme has not been completed and the district hospitals have not been well equipped as a result of which people have been put to manifold difficulties. In some hospitals still now no adequate arrangement for supply of necessary medicines has been made, diet is not properly supplied, and even the number of beds in many hospitals is very limited. This is so in respect of the conditions of dispensaries directly managed by Government. The condition of dispensaries under Local Board is still worse. On an earlier occasion I have stated that the condition of a Local Board Dispensary in the Subdivision of Karimganj was very precarious. First difficulty is regarding supply of proper food and diet to the patients admitted in the Hospital. I know cases where the condition of the Local Board Dispensary is such that for two or three weeks they have to run without any funds. In some of the villages, dispensaries have to be run without any fund at all. You can easily understand the condition of such hospitals.

Mr. SPEAKER: Do you mean to say that it is in your area ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Yes, Sir, it is in my area. The financial condition of the hospital at Karimganj is very bad and therefore.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Will you Mr. Das take your seat for a minute ? (Looking to the Minister-in-charge) He means to say that in the Subdivisional Hospital at Karimganj, there was no fund to run the hospital for two to three weeks.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): In which hospital ?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: In the Local Board Dispensary at Karimganj. The dispensary authority had to purchase food-stuff, etc., on credit.

Now, this is the condition of dispensaries managed by Local Boards in towns and villages. Then it has been stated by many Members of this House during the Budget discussions that the number of subsidised dispensaries established by Government is very scanty and fall far short of the demand of the people. We have seen from the Sample Survey Statistics that 75 per cent of the people in the village do not get the benefit of any medicine supplied by Government. Government may explain that this is due to dearth of qualified doctors. But the fact is that they do not offer better condition of service, better pay and salary to these doctors so that they may feel attracted to Government service. How can we expect good doctors to come forward to serve under the Government if their condition of service and pays and emoluments are not attractive? It is a regular complaint that in the rural areas the dispensaries which are being run and managed by Local Board from grants received from Government, do not contain proper medicines to treat patients. It is said that some coloured medicines—one for fever, one for stomach pain, etc.,—are administered to the village folk. I must say that the provision which has been made in the Budget for giving medical aid to the village folk is far from satisfactory.

With these few words, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : Cut Motion moved is that the provision of Rs.15,78,388, under Grant No.17, Major head—38.—Medical, Minor head—B.—Hospitals and Dispensaries (total), at page 128 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.70,48,600 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Das.

Firstly, I should like to draw your attention to the provision for travelling dispensaries, which will be found at page 119 of the Budget Estimates. It appears that in the year 1953-54, a sum of Rs.9,358 was spent for travelling dispensaries and it also appears that the provision for this purpose for the Sixth Schedule areas was much higher than for the plains areas. I can understand the difficulties of the Sixth Schedule areas. These areas are very much scattered and there are difficulties of communication; so mobile dispensaries have been provided which can go from place to place and administer medical aid to the people. But,

Sir, it seems that Government have failed to realise the necessity of extending this particular mode of giving medical aid to a particular section of the people of the plains areas. This attitude of Government is revealed by the amounts provided in the Budget on this account from year to year. This year, Sir, the provision is only Rs.37,400. It seems that Government are completely over looking the needs of vast areas, which lie on the banks of the Brahmaputra and in the Brahmaputra—I mean the riverine areas of the State beginning in the East from Darrang and Nowgong and extending right upto the westernmost limits of the Goalpara district.

Mr. SPEAKER: You want riverine dispensaries?

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: Yes, Sir, more than a million people live in those areas. They are more or less cut off from the mainland. They live in scattered *chars* and have no access to any of the dispensaries situated in the mainland. These people naturally get no medical aid and are deprived completely of the amenities which Government provide in the matter of education, road communication and other things. I don't understand why Government should not see their way to find some money to provide mobile medical units, fitted with motor-boats, which can move in the river and give medical aid to the people living in the riverine areas. I know, Sir, that these people suffer very badly. Except during epidemics, when the Public Health people go and give them inoculation, they scarcely get any facility for medical treatment whatsoever from the Government. I don't know whether Government feel any responsibility for giving relief to these people. If Government do feel any responsibility for them, I want to know why their case has been ignored so long and why this aspect of medical treatment from mobile units has been denied to them and whether in future Government propose to take any action in this direction. So, Sir, I say that this provision of Rs.37,400 is absolutely insignificant and does not meet the requirement of the people, particularly in the riverine areas of the State. I think, Sir, Government would do well to draw up a comprehensive scheme to establish certain mobile river units, equipped with medicines and all medical equipments, so that they can move from place to place and give aid to the people. There should be some sort of a permanent scheme. I hope Government will seriously consider this matter.

Then, Sir, in spite of establishing certain dispensaries in the backward areas, we find that some of them cannot be manned by doctors. I know of one dispensary at Bosgaon, near Kachugaon, which is a backward area; this dispensary was completed about a year back but for want of doctor they have not been

able to staff it. Possibly Government will say that there is dearth of medical personnel. I agree that there is some dearth of medical personnel, but what is it due to? It is due to the unattractive scales of pay, which the Government are prepared to give. The scale of pay is Rs.175—450 or something like that. This scale of pay is absolutely inadequate for medical graduates, particularly for backward areas where there are difficulties of communication and where there is no scope for private practice. If we really want to extend medical facilities to these areas, we should provide a higher scale of pay to attract men with requisite qualifications. This is a matter which should be seriously considered. Mere plea that sufficient number of medical personnel is not available will not help. The whole question should be considered very carefully and a higher scale of pay should be provided so that we can get at least a larger number of medical personnel than at present available.

Then, Sir, we find that in the towns also medical facilities are not adequate, even so far as headquarters dispensaries and hospitals are concerned. More and more people from the rural areas are coming for treatment to these hospitals but unfortunately for want of accommodation they have to be turned away and thereby they are denied the benefit of medical treatment. I know the case of Dhubri Hospital where there is terrible congestion and a good number of people is refused admission for lack of accommodation. There have been persistent representations from the people to extend the hospital, but it seems Government have not paid any heed to it. The people are now more inclined to take to allopathic system of treatment and we should be able to provide more facilities and more hospital accommodation so that people can come and take the benefit of medical treatment. Government should, in my opinion, make a comprehensive survey of the total medical requirements of the State and draw up a comprehensive plan to meet the needs of the people from various areas, particularly the areas lying in riverine tracts.

With these few words, Sir, I support the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das.

Shri JADAB CHANDRA KHAKHLARI: অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, নই চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰি এটা কথা ক'ব খুজিছো।

(Voice —হব, আৰু নেলাগে ক'ব।)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): The hon. Member is not speaking, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far management of hospitals and dispensaries is concerned, I must say that the position has definitely improved. For the information of the hon. Members I like to state that in the year 1947.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Since the Deputy Speaker or any one from the Panel of Chairmen is absent, with the permission of the House, I request the Leader of the Opposition to take the Chair. I think you approve of it.

(The Leader of the Opposition, Shri Hareswar Goswami, at this stage took the Chair.)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was just telling that in the year 1947, the number of hospitals and dispensaries was 284 with 1947 beds as against this, the present number of hospitals and dispensaries is 439 with 2,542 beds. This, Sir, will definitely prove what progress and improvement have been made in this matter. Sir, it is a fact that the management of certain hospitals and dispensaries was not so satisfactory before but after taking over of the district hospitals and dispensaries by the Government, the conditions of the district headquarters Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries have definitely improved. Sir, I have visited almost all the hospitals and dispensaries both in urban and rural areas and I may tell the hon. Members that the condition has definitely improved. Take for instance—what was the condition of the North Lakhimpur Civil Hospital and the Sibsagar Civil hospital? These two hospitals were previously in very wretched conditions, but now if the hon. Members will go and visit these hospitals, they will find what a change has come.

Sir, Government granted huge amount for improvement of hospitals and dispensaries in the Subdivisional towns which are under the Local Boards.

Now, Sir, Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das raised the question of Karimganj Hospital and dispensaries. Sir, the Karimganj Hospital is under Karimganj Local Board and my Friend knows it quite well what improvement has been made with the amount given by the State Government and what a change has been done to that hospital. Regarding the maintenance of the hospital, of course, I have not received any report. My Friend has just now raised this point, but I shall look into it, of course it will take sometime to get the information. Sir, my Friend is the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipal Board and that hospital is also within the Municipal area. It is also his look out and also his responsibility to see to these things. Sir, so far Karimganj Hospital is concerned, I shall make an enquiry as to what is the position with regard to diets and stock of medicines. Regarding the suggestions made by my Friend, Mr. Umaruddin, I welcome his suggestions. My Friend has said that sufficient amount has not been given for providing sufficient dispensaries in the riverine areas. Sir, it is a fact that we have not been able to provide sufficient money for establishing necessary

dispensaries in the riverine areas, but my Friend should also know that we have also given dispensaries in the riverine areas according to our financial position. Sir, probably my Friend remembers that recently we have given two subsidised dispensaries—one at Patamari and one at Dharamsala. In this connection, I like to say that my notice has also been drawn to this subject matter by my Friend, Shri Pahar Khan. He has said something on this subject during the general discussions of the Budget and I remember he said “ঔষধ তাদের চোখের জল—চিণা তাদের পথ।” Any how, Sir, I shall look into it and see if we can give more dispensaries in the riverine areas from the next year's budget provision. Then, Sir, another point has been raised by my Friend, Mr. Umaruddin, as to why necessary provision has not been made for providing Travelling Dispensaries in the riverine areas as in the Hills. Sir, in the Hill areas we do not have such a big population, the people are living here and there very thinly. So, Sir, the Travelling Dispensaries are very useful in those hill areas. My Friend should know that we do not give mobile vans in these tracts and the medical personnel have to go by bicycles and they climb up inaccessible backward areas. However, Sir, I shall look into all these things and see what can be done.

Sir, my Friend, Mr. Umaruddin, should know that under Article 275 Grant, we have got one mobile dispensary for the plains tribal areas and another for the tribal people in the Hills areas. These mobile vans with doctors, compounders and staff go to different areas, specially in the backward areas and we have seen that these mobile vans are very useful in these areas. Sir, these mobile vans also carry medicines with them.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: What about Bosgoan Dispensary? For want of a doctor that dispensary has not been opened as yet. I do not know whether the Minister-in-charge has been recently to that place. I have just come straight from there.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Sir, every one knows there is great dearth of qualified doctors. I think the position will be eased with the coming of the medical graduates from the Medical College. We are waiting for police report and as soon as we get the police report, we shall appoint at least 30 doctors, and I shall try to send one doctor for Bosgoan Dispensary.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: What about scale of pay?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): We are now recruiting more qualified doctors, Sir. With the closure of the Berry-White Medical School, we are now getting Medical Graduates from our College. So far as I remember, they have been given a starting pay of Rs.175 and they also get the House Allowance. So, it comes to about Rs. 200 at the start, for an Assistant Surgeon Grade I (Junior).

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: It is not adequate.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): That is the starting pay of an Assistant Surgeon, Grade I—Junior. So, Sir, with the recruitment of the Assistant Surgeon, Grade I, Junior, now it will be possible to give one doctor to the Bosgaon Dispensary.

With these words, Sir, I request my Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, to withdraw his Cut Motion.

(The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhattacharyya.

(At this stage Shri Hareswar Goswami vacated the Chair and the Deputy Speaker occupied it.)

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 98,800 under grant No. 17, Major head—38.—Medical, Minor head—D—Medical Colleges and Schools, Sub-head (d) Ayurvedic College, Gauhati (total), at page 140 of Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 70,48,600 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

The object of moving this Motion is to criticise the Government policy regarding Ayurvedic system of medicine.

Sir, in a recent message sent by our Medical Minister for the Magazine of the Ayurvedic College, Gauhati, he was pleased to make the following observations—"Nobody can deny the fact that with the attainment of Independence the Ayurvedic system of medicine is again gaining popularity in India." Again he said, "In Assam there is a great possibility of developing the Ayurvedic system of medicine and I am confident that our Ayurvedic College with its proper and necessary development will turn into an ideal institution in the near future for creating facilities for manufacturing Ayurvedic drugs and producing qualified Kavirajas." Sir this sounds incongruous with the provision of only Rs. 98,800 against a total of Rs.70,48,600, under this Department.

The vast majority of our people live in the villages, in the most interior places and since most of the allopathic dispensaries and hospitals are in the towns, the vast majority of our people in the villages do not get the advantages of these allopathic dispensaries. So, if the village people are to be served, greater attention should be given to the system of medicine which is actually in vogue in the rural areas. Now, Sir, we have seen in this regard, several other States have made tremendous progress. For example, I may be allowed to cite the example of Uttar Pradesh. There according to Dr. D. A. Kulkarni, Deputy Director, Ayurveda, Uttar Pradesh.—“The Government of Uttar Pradesh realising the important part to be played by the indigenous system of Ayurveda and Unani Tibb, took steps in September, 1949, for establishing a separate department of Ayurveda and Unani Tibb under the control of the Deputy Director of Medical and Health Services, Ayurveda, Uttar Pradesh. At present there are 537 State Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries”. Similarly the Uttar Pradesh State Pharmacy of Aurvedic and Unani medicines has also been established in the year 1949. Then, Sir, a State Ayurvedic College has been established at Lucknow and a 48 bedded hospital has been specially constructed for the Ayurvedic Hospital of that college. The budget for the year 1954-55 shows that an amount of Rs. 32,55,800 has been spent by the Government for the development of these systems during the financial year. So, while in Uttar Pradesh they spent 32½ lakhs of rupees, in Assam we are going to spend less than one lakh of rupees. Not only in Uttar Pradesh, even a smaller and poorer State like PEPSU had gone ahead of us. There is a news item dated 18th February, 1955 :

পেপুচ সবকাৰ ২০ লাখ বপয়েকী এক যোজনা কৰ বহী হয়। জিসকা থয়োজন আয়ুৰ্বেদিক কে অনুসন্ধান ব উসকী চিকিৎসা কা বিস্তাৰ কবনা হয়। যোজনা কে অনুসৰ পাৰ্বতা প্ৰদেশ মে আয়ুৰ্বেদিক জড়ী বটিয়ো কে তীন উদ্যান বনেদে। আয়ুৰ্বেদিক অনুসন্ধান ঞালা খোলা জায়েগী তথা ২০০ আয়ুৰ্বেদিক চিকিৎসালয় খোলে জায়েদে। চলতে ফিবতে চিকিৎসালয় তী খোলে জায়েদে।

So, we find that even a smaller State like PEPSU has given more attention to the system of indigenous medicine. Therefore, it is only meet and proper that our State should also give a little more attention to this indigenous system of medicine and particularly for this purpose a separate Ayurvedic Department should be established under a Deputy Director, Ayurveda.

Sir, recently there have been some unseemly controversies between some physicians in Allopathy and Ayurveda. With all respects to the system of Allopathy, we have seen how some licenciates in Allopathy who are not even Graduates, and who simply by virtue of their being the sons of some big and wealthy people, could go to Switzerland or some other foreign countries, passed some disparaging remarks about this indigenous and ancient system of medicine. They may not have any regard for Charaka or Sushruta. Of course it may not be expected from them, but the fact remains that this is a most efficacious system which has stood the test for centuries. I do not blame them, but what I mean to say is that the Government should take steps to separate the control of the Ayurvedic system from the hand of the Allopaths and start a separate Ayurveda Department altogether.

I would also like to suggest that the Government should take up a scheme whereby with the starting of a separate Ayurveda Department, there will be also steps for starting Ayurvedic Dispensaries especially for the rural areas. There should be also some subsidised Ayurvedic dispensaries in the villages. If and where there are some dispensaries in the villages, they may be helped by Government which in turn can render medical assistance to the villagers.

Lastly, I want to suggest that there should be greater provision for further research in the Ayurvedic medicinal herbs, because so far as our State is concerned, there is a great potentiality in this regard. As the Bihar Government have done very recently and as we ourselves have passed an Act on Homeopathy in this House, similarly an Act should be passed with regard to the Ayurveda whereby the qualified Kavirajas may get certificates with the strength of which they can go on making treatment. There is a general complaint even from renowned Kavirajas that in Government offices their certificates are not given any value. Even a certificate from a Licentiate in Allopathy carries more value. So, this is all very incongruous and I beg to suggest that Government should take prompt measures to develop this Department early. With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is :

That the provision of Rs. 98,800 under Grant No.17, Major Head—38.—Medical, Minor head—D—Medical Colleges and Schools, Sub-head (d) Ayurvedic College, Gauhati (total), at page 140 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 70,48,600 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I quite appreciate Mr. Bhattacharyya's anxiety to see that the Ayurvedic system of medicine is properly developed in our State. Sir, personally, I have got a very good opinion about it. I listened to my message which has been read by my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya. Just after Independence, this indigenous Ayurvedic system of medicine has now come into prominence. The leaders of our country have taken up this question in right earnest. My Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya knows that this Ayurvedic College was started only in the year 1948-49 and owing to financial reasons, we have not been able to construct all the necessary buildings independently for Ayurvedic College and it has to be done as a make-shift arrangement in the Engineering Institute at Gauhati. We have got the necessary staff for this college and we have made an arrangement for a hospital which is now attached to the Civil Hospital at Gauhati with 10 beds for this college. But the question now is about a separate building for this college. As I have already stated that it has been done only as a make-shift arrangement in the Engineering Institute, and these two institutes cannot grow together as there is very little scope for expansion and we have decided to shift this Ayurvedic College to a better site. We have selected a site near the University area (in the Jhalukbari site). This is a very good site for the Ayurvedic College and under the Second Five-Year Plan, we are going to prepare an elaborate scheme to upgrade this Ayurvedic College with necessary developments. We have selected a plot and if money can be made available from the First Five-Year Plan, we have also decided to begin the construction of some buildings in that new site. We have taken all possible measures to develop the Ayurvedic College. In view of what I have stated, I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya will please withdraw his Cut Motion.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: In view of the assurance, I beg to withdraw my Cut Motion.

(The Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have two Cut Motions. May I be allowed to speak on both the matters on the same Motion without moving the second one?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes, you may.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 70,48,600, under Grant No. 17, Major head—38.—Medical, at page 118 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 70,48,600 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Sir, in this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the inadequacy of the hospital facilities in the major towns of Assam, and secondly, inadequate supply of doctors for various dispensaries in the State. Sir, just now in connection with the Cut Motion moved by my Friend, Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das, the Medical Minister has stated that conditions have improved in the dispensaries and the hospitals in the State of Assam. Sir, I will not deny him the pleasure of saying that the conditions have, to a certain extent, improved but on the other hand certain dispensaries, although he mentioned North Lakhimpur and Mangaldai particularly and the other dispensaries where the conditions are really what they were 15 or 20 years back, there is inadequacy of staff, inadequacy of beds, inadequacy of medicine and other facilities. Sir, when we speak of hospitals in the town, we are not to think only of Gauhati, Jorhat and Shillong but all those places in the far off place like North Lakhimpur or relatively undeveloped areas like Mangaldai. There also the hospital facilities need improvement and I hope the Minister will see that in improving conditions, he will not only improve the conditions of only 2 or 3 big towns but will also remember far away towns like North Lakhimpur and Mangaldai, and these places must also draw the attention of the Government.

Sir, regarding Gauhati also or Jorhat or for that purpose Shillong. In Shillong we have seen the location of the hospital itself is in a very bad place. This hospital should be removed to certain other place and thereby more facilities can be afforded. Sir, I do not want to speak much about the outdoor facilities because in most of these cases, there is a big rush in the outdoor section and because of the inadequacy of staff, the outdoor patients are not looked after promptly and immediately. It is necessary that we should have outdoor stations not only in the main hospitals, but there should be outdoor stations in the outskirts of the town like Gauhati also ; because at night sometimes

it becomes so difficult for certain reasons to come to the main hospital. Therefore, we should have outdoor stations in the outlying areas of the town also, so that the people will get quick and easy medical facilities. Then, regarding Gauhati, the whole area is so very congested and the other day I suggested to Government and the Government have accepted to shift the hospital to a new site. It has been a crying need for a long time and as the land has been purchased from the Baptist Mission, I suggest that the land is immediately taken over and construction started immediately; then the congestion, to a certain extent, will be relieved. Sir, at Gauhati we have got an X-Ray plant but what I know from the report is that the plates are not available and the people do not get the facilities of the X-Ray. Then, in other hospitals like Dibrugarh, Shillong and other places also, we should have X-Ray plants because these are the minimum and basic necessities and these things should be provided in all important district and subdivisional headquarters hospitals so that people may not be deprived of the minimum facilities.

Sir, I have also to draw the attention of the House to another very important factor, namely, the menace of tuberculosis. We have got the Reid Chest Hospital and another hospital has been started at Gauhati and another at Dhubri. (A voice from the Treasury Benches—Sir, these things are not relevant here). Yes, Sir, they are, because we have made provision for 6 beds for T. B. patients in other general hospitals in the subdivisional headquarters. But this is not sufficient because there is not specialised treatment, and therefore the treatment is not sufficient. Sir, we know that there is heavy demand for such T.B. beds in Shillong. It is not possible to get a bed here. For this reason, I know recently there was a demand for construction of T. B. hospitals at Tezpur, Mangaldai and Nowgong. From what I learn, the Hon. Finance Minister also promised for erecting such a hospital at Tezpur, but up till now nothing has been done. Sir, day before yesterday I read in the papers that the Government of India are thinking or have decided to spend more than one crore of rupees for removing the scourge of T.B. This should be fully taken advantage of by our Government and we should open more T.B. hospitals in all district headquarters, and these T.B. beds should not be associated in the general hospitals so that there may not be contamination and spread of the disease and so that T.B. patients may get proper and adequate treatment.

Then, regarding doctors, Sir, the Dibrugarh Medical School has been abolished. Last year also I asked whether it was advisable for Government to abolish this school. But no heed was given to that. What we do find today? There is a scarcity of doctors everywhere and subsidised dispensaries cannot get doctors. It is common knowledge that these subsidised dispensaries have to go without doctors for months together because it is difficult to get medical graduate at lower pay. What is the pay of these doctors in subsidised dispensaries? It is only Rs. 80 a month. So, it is impossible to get medical graduates at Rs. 80 a month. We must do something to meet this situation. Now, there is a distinction between Public Health Dispensaries, Subsidised Dispensaries and Government Dispensaries and because of this distinction, we cannot get graduate doctors everywhere. Doctors do not get the same scale of pay everywhere. In Subsidised Dispensaries, as I have said, they are getting only Rs. 80, whereas in Public Health and Government Dispensaries, where only medical graduates are appointed, they are getting Rs. 150 per month. Although these two Departments have been amalgamated at the top—we have now a Director of Health Services—at the bottom this amalgamation has not been made with the result that there is this difference in scale of pay. Therefore, some dispensaries which cannot afford to pay Rs. 150, have to go without a doctor. So, if Government have decided to appoint everywhere only medical graduates, they should also see that all subsidised dispensaries, those that are subsidised from Government coffers, should get doctors at Government cost. I would request Government to take into consideration this fact. But, if this is not possible, then we must have shorter courses so as to get doctors at least at Rs. 80, so that we can man our dispensaries properly, otherwise, what is the meaning in having hospitals and dispensaries without doctors?

There is another point, that is, about those students who passed out from Dacca or other National Medical Schools. I raised this point last year also. Some applications from such doctors are still pending because they could not be registered in Calcutta. Because they failed to register in Calcutta, they are still not recognised. The matter has been taken up by the Indian Medical Association, Assam Branch, and a deputation is also waited on the Minister. Even then these doctors who could not be registered in Calcutta, although they passed and produced certificates to the effect, are not recognised. So, their cases should also be given proper examination.

In this connection, I want to point out also that when the Medical Department, for certain reason, cannot utilise the money that has been allotted to it, that money should be diverted and given as pay to the Subsidised Dispensaries so that we can have the services of regular and of good doctors.

With these, words, Sir, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs. 70,48,600, under Grant No. 17, Major head—38-Medical, at page 118 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.70,48,600 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Friend has raised many points regarding dispensaries and hospitals. He has mentioned particularly North Lakhimpur and Mangaldai. I can say that arrangements in other areas may not be adequate, but I got reports that in North Lakhimpur and Mangaldai medical arrangements are adequate. Regarding the staff in these subsidised dispensaries, it is the responsibility and liability of the people and not of the Government.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Are they not provincialised?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): No, they have not yet been provincialised.

My Friend also raised the question of installation of X-Ray plants in all hospitals. Sir, in this regard I may inform my Friend that we have already provided all district headquarters hospitals with X-Ray plants, namely, at Dibrugarh, Gauhati, Jorhat, Tezpur, Nowgong, Dhubri and Silchar. So, we have already provided X-Ray plants in practically all hospitals which are not run by the Local Boards.

I may also inform my hon. Friend that we have already decided to open T.B. clinics in North Lakhimpur, Barpeta and Aijal. In the T.B. clinics at North Lakhimpur and Silchar, 20 beds are going to be provided. Then, at Dhubri we have recently taken over a T.B. Hospital, establishment of which has been made possible by public contribution, and this contains 14 beds and we are going to have 100 more beds at Shillong. In next year's budget, we have made a provision of rupees one lakh for equipments to Gauhati T. B. Hospital. In this way, Sir, we

have been trying our level best to make all possible arrangements for dealing with this T.B. menace in our State. And under the Five-Year Plan also we are going to make a very exhaustive scheme to fight this menace. Our idea is to have in each district Civil Hospital at least 100 beds and in each subdivisional Civil Hospital 50 beds with clinical arrangements and X-Ray plants.

My Friend, Mr. Goswami, raised a point that the Gauhati and Shillong Civil Hospitals should be expanded. There is no scope to expand the Shillong Civil Hospital at the present site, but under the Second Five-Year Plan, we are going to shift this Civil Hospital to a better site so that we can develop it according to our plan and scheme. As far as Gauhati Civil Hospital is concerned, Sir, it was stated in the House some days back that we had already taken a plot of land from the local Missionaries for its expansion. (Shri Hareswar Goswami: What about arrangement for accommodating more patients?) We have recently constructed a new ward with 50 beds in the premises of this Gauhati Civil Hospital.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I also suggested that for the outdoor patients some buildings should be kept apart in a different part of the town so that it can be more advantageous to them.

Shri RUP NATH BRAHMA (Minister): I think it will be to a greater advantage of the outdoor patients if such buildings are kept attached to the hospital. Any how, I shall look into this and examine the matter.

My Friend, Mr. Goswami, raised another point regarding giving more pay to the doctors appointed for the subsidised dispensaries, I may explain in this connection that for the appointment of doctors for the subsidised dispensaries, the responsibility is of the public themselves. It is a condition that the public have to arrange doctors for the subsidised dispensaries.

I think the hon. Members know that it is the sole responsibility of the Local Board to open dispensaries in the rural areas. But as the economic condition of the Local Board at present is not so sound, we have to come up with a scheme that if the people wanting a dispensary in their area come forward with some contribution by constructing houses for the dispensary, doctor, etc., and find a doctor for it then Government would give them subsidy, and that is why such a dispensary is called subsidised dispensary. Mr. Goswami suggested that unless we raise the pay of the doctor of the subsidised dispensary no doctor will be available. If the hon. Members of the House desire to raise the pay of the doctor then we may examine the matter to see how far it can be done.

I think after hearing my statement the hon. Mover will see his way to withdraw his Cut Motion.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Cut Motion.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn).

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs. 70,48,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1955 for the administration of the head "38.—Medical".

(The Motion was adopted).

GRANT NO.18

(39—Public Health)

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.59,51,200 (Rupees fifty-nine lakhs, fifty-one thousand and two hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head —"39.—Public Health".

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 59,51,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—"39.—Public Health".

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Sir, I have got 3 Cut Motions in my name and if I move them together I think it will be more convenient for the Minister to give his reply.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—That the provision of Rs. 5,08,450 under Grant No. 18, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor head—A.—Public Health Establishment—(a)—Superintendence and other Establishments, Sub-head—2.—Pay of Establishment (total), at page 144 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(After a pause)

Sir, I further beg to move: That the provision of Rs. 25,650 under Grant No. 18, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor head—A.—Public Health Establishment, Sub-head—(c)—Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme (total) at page 145 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re.1

(After a pause)

Again Sir, I beg to move: That the provision of Rs.1,44,464 under Grant No. 18, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor head—Development Schemes (Five-Year Plan), Sub-head—(a)—Maternity and Child Welfare (total), at page 150 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, by the first Cut Motion I want to raise a discussion about the service conditions of the Department with special reference to the Urban Health Officers.

It has been clearly discussed by my Friend, Mr. Goswami. that the doctors who were appointed in the subsidised dispensaries are getting a pay of Rs.75 or Rs.80 per month and so it is needless to say that Government should revise the pay scale of those persons immediately.

Next I come to the Urban Health Officers. Sir, so far as my information goes there are 7 or 8 Urban Health Officers in our State and they are stationed in urban areas, that is, in towns and the public health of thousands of people living in those towns depend upon the service of this type of doctors and yet, Sir, from the facts and figures I find that there is great disparity in the scale of pay of these officers when compared with other officers of Public Health Department or Medical Department. Sir, the old scale of pay of the Assistant Surgeon II was from Rs.75—200 and after revision of pay scale by the Pay Committee it was fixed at Rs.120—270. The old pay scale of the Urban Health Officer was from Rs.100—225 and it was revised

by the Pay Committee to Rs.125--250, that is to say Rs. 5 more initially but Rs. 20 less than the Assistant Surgeon II in the maximum. The pay scale of the S. D. M. O. H. was nil formerly because there was no such post. Now their pay scale is Rs. 125—275. The S. D. M. O. H. is not higher in position than the U. H. O. and yet the maximum of the former is Rs.270 whereas the maximum of the latter is only Rs. 250, that is, difference by Rs. 25.

Sir, I know the Urban Health Officers have to undergo a special training for one year, and it is because of this special training their pay scale was raised in old scale. But unfortunately after revision of the pay scale, they have now been given a pay scale much lower than that of Assistant Surgeon II, who are not to undergo any training.

But so far as the pay scale is concerned, it is much below than that of S. D. M. O. Hs. Secondly so far as S.D.M.O.Hs. and Assistant Surgeons II, are concerned, they are given a special allowance but the U. H. Os are denied of this special allowance. You will see, Sir, these U. H. Os have no scope for promotion in their department. Once he is posted in a certain place, he will have to end his career there unless of course he is transferred to some other place. But he has no promotion whatsoever. Another thing that is to be considered is this: S. D. M. O. Hs and Assistant Surgeons, Class II are entitled to a House rent allowance of Rs.25, but these U. H. Os have an allowance of Rs. 20 only. I cannot understand this disparity. The U.H.Os are to live in towns and the rent of houses in towns are higher. But to live in such areas U.H.Os are given an allowance of Rs. 20 only. Here also he gets Rs. 5 less than the others. However, after many years this allowance has been increased now by a few rupees more. These are the reasons for which Government do not get doctor to serve as U. H. Os. and the post of U. H. O. in Gauhati was vacant for two years. These facts were brought to the notice of the Government as early as 1952, but unfortunately Government have so far showed no consideration to these suggestions. This time, however, we hope Government will be pleased to consider these facts.

So far as the 2nd Cut Motion of mine is concerned, I want only a clarification regarding the question of establishment of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in rural areas. Sometime ago my help was asked for the selection of a site for establishment of Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in Patharkandi

in Karimganj Subdivision when I had an occasion to have a glimpse of a Government Circular where it has been stated that 50 per cent. of the cost of the buildings that will be required for the Centre will be borne by Government and the other 50 per cent. by the villagers who are to be benefited by such a Welfare Centre. We have, however, selected a site at Patharkandi for the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. But the point I want to know in this connection is regarding the share of the public in the matter of establishment of these Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. We are glad that Government are trying to establish the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres for the benefit of the rural population. But when I left Karimganj for Shillong I was told on the way that Government has in a recent circular notified that the entire cost of construction of buildings and quarters for the Maternity Centre will have to be borne by the local people. Sir, in my opinion, this is not fair. Financial condition of our village people is not such as to be able even to pay the 50 per cent. of the cost of such a building. In such circumstances, it is indeed very unfair to ask them to pay the entire cost of the buildings. In this connection, we know that Government of India are going to pay 50 per cent. of the cost and they desire that another 50 per cent. should be paid by the rural people. I do not know why there should be any deviation from this principle. I therefore request Government to fix up the contribution of village people on 50 : 50 basis.

Sir, by my third Cut Motion I want to raise a discussion about the desirability in making a special grant to the Maternity Centre attached to the Karimganj Civil Hospital. Sir, as I have said before, we are glad that Government is taking interest to establish Maternity and Child Welfare Centres under the Five-Year Plan in the rural areas. On the last occasion the Minister in charge told us that a sum of Rs. 20 thousand was granted for a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Silchar and also that another similar scheme for the Karimganj Civil Hospital was being prepared. Sir, you may not know that there is a Maternity Home attached to the Karimganj Civil Hospital. The building in which this Maternity Home is located is a magnificent one and this building was donated by late Kumar Gopika Mohon Rai. But unfortunately due to paucity of funds we have not yet been able to improve this Maternity Home. I would therefore request the Government to give some grant to this institution.

With these few words I commend my Motions to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the provision of Rs.5,08,450 under Grant No.18, Major head—39—Public Health, Minor head—A.—Public Health Establishment—(a)—Superintendence and other Establishment, Sub-head—2—Pay of Establishment (total), at page 144 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re.1,

I do not propose to read out the other cut motions. The Minister-in-charge will please cover in his reply the points raised in the other motions.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das, in his first cut motion, has particularly raised the question of service conditions of the doctors of the Public Health Department. So far as this point is concerned, the service conditions of the Public Health Department doctors are the same as the other Government servants except that doctors of the Public Health Department are not allowed to make private practice. They are, however, given certain allowance in lieu of the restriction that has been imposed on them, *i.e.* restriction on private practice. So far as the Urban Health Officers are concerned, this pay scale as already stated by Mr. Das, is from Rs. 125 to Rs. 250 per month.

But in addition to this, they get a conveyance allowance of Rs. 5 per month and also a house rent allowance of Rs.25 per month. The Assistant Surgeons, II, of the Public Health Department are also entitled to a house rent allowance of Rs.20 per month in rural areas, Rs.25 per month in the plains towns and Rs.35 per month in Shillong.

Of course, Sir, as stated by Mr. Das, the Urban Health Officers take some additional training. I can inform the House that Government have already taken up the question of retionalising the pay scales of all technical personnel, which includes the Urban Health Officers also. Their case is, therefore, already under the consideration of Government.

Mr. Das said that there was no Urban Health Officer at Gauhati, That is not a fact, Sir. We have got one there.

Shri RANEDRA MOHAN DAS: The post was lying vacant for a considerable time.

Shri RUNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Now, Sir, Mr. Das wants a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Karimganj.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: There is already one Centre. I wanted its improvement.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): That is only a Dhai Training Centre. Sir, we have already made provision in the next year's Budget for 10 more Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, on the basis of 50 per cent contribution from the people. I shall see whether one of the centres can be given at Karimganj.

This is all I have got to say and in view of what I have said I hope my Friend will withdraw his Cut Motion.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do you like to withdraw?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Yes, Sir.

(The Motion was, by leave of the House, with drawn.)

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that, that the provision of Rs.2,84,200 under Grant No.18, Major head 39.—Public Health, Minor head—C.—Epidemic Diseases, Sub-head—(b)—Other Epidemics (total), at page 147 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re.1.

By this Cut Motion, I want to criticize Government for failure to control epidemic diseases, particularly, small-pox.

Sir, I here refer to a statement published in the 'Natin Assamiya' on 16th March, 1955 that small-pox in an epidemic form has spread in almost every village under the Boko thana. Not only this; I know that small-pox has spread to a large number of villages in Chaygaon thana also. Sir, this small-pox epidemic is almost an annual occurrence and our Government fail to control it. I do not know why every year our people should suffer from small-pox. But I can enumerate certain causes for which Government have not been able to control small-pox.

The first reason is that the vaccinators do not go to the interior villages. As a proof of this statement, I can give as many instances as required by Government. There are many interior villages which have not seen a vaccinator for two or three years.

The second cause for spread of small-pox is that the number of vaccinators throughout Assam is too inadequate to cope with the situation. In some thanas there is only one or

two vaccinators and in others there are three. With this small number it is physically impossible for them to go to every village and vaccinate every family. I, therefore, submit that the number of vaccinators should be increased.

The third cause responsible for spread of small-pox that most of the vaccinators are in temporary establishment and some are part-time workers. I know many vaccinators, who work only for a few hours in villages, but for the rest of the day they do their own business; some are *darjis* and shopkeepers. When we had asked them, "Why you do not devote your full-time attention to the vaccination work" they replied, "We are in temporary establishment and we are part-time workers. With this little amount if we go on vaccinating all throughout the day, how can we support our families?" So, to give real benefit to the people and to control small-pox effectively, the vaccinators should be made members of a permanent establishment with a regular and better scale of pay. Their present scale is very inadequate and so they cannot devote to their duties sincerely. This establishment, I think, should be permanent as early as possible and there should be no part-time workers.

Then, Sir, most of the vaccinators are untrained; some of them even have not got the knowledge of how to sterilise needles. They do not know where and how to vaccinate. They have not even the minimum amount of knowledge in this matter. I, therefore, suggest that there should be a course of training for vaccinators either at Shillong or at Gauhati or at any suitable place, where the vaccinators can be given some sort of training, so that they can do their duties properly.

Then, Sir, one of the main causes for spread of small-pox is—though I am not a doctor but my commonsense says this—that there must be something wrong in the preparation of vaccination lymphs.

I know that in many cases a person taking vaccination two or three times, even then he suffers from small-pox. What is the reason? Sir, we know from our childhood that when a person takes vaccination once he does not suffer from small-pox years together. But now a days if a man takes vaccination two or three times within a month, yet he suffers from an attack of small-pox. This clearly shows that there is something wrong in the preparation of lymphs, otherwise, how there is widespread of small-pox? So, Sir I request Government to see to this aspect, whether the lymphs prepared here or elsewhere have got something wrong with the preparation.

With these words, Sir, I request Government to note all these things and relieve the sufferings of the people due to epidemics as early as possible. Sir, with that end in view, I commend my Cut Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The motion moved is that the provision of Rs. 2,84,200 under Grant No.18, Major head-39.—Public Health, Minor head-C—Epidemic Diseases, Sub-head—(b)—Other Epidemics (total), at page 147 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri A. ALLEY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do not know why I stood up but because the words 'small-pox' and 'Vaccine Lymph' are necessarily connected with the Vaccine Depot which is near to my house, I feel I must contribute something on this matter. This Vaccine Depot is the only Vaccine Depot in the State. Before the partition of India, the Vaccine Depot used to supply one million Lymphs per year mostly to Eastern Bengal, but after the Partition the quantity was reduced to $\frac{1}{2}$ million. The Vaccine Depot was then improved and they have now a good operating theatre and an excellent ward for calves. Government deserve congratulations. The house for calves is far superior to the hospital wards in Police Bazar. With this development and an energetic medical officer in-charge of the Depot., the supply has shot up to 3 times the present quantity. Although 80 per cent, of the lymphs are supplied free, the Vaccine Depot has shown receipts from Rs. 10,000 to nearly one lakh. The vaccines are sent to most parts of India. The Medical Officers of this kind of Department are paid salaries up to Rs. 600, but our officer is not paid even half of such scale. As he has shown good works and in order to avoid giving cause of discontent, I recommend that the officer be given a higher scale of pay.

The present Vaccine Depot will soon be shifted to Pasteur Institute. It may appear as somewhat irrelevant to the subject under discussion, but I feel I must speak about this also. I understand Government proposed to use the present Vaccine Depot as a T. B. Clinic. We the people who live around the Depot, the Nepales, Tribals, Deswalis, etc., oppose this proposal and request Government to use the buildings for maternity and child welfare centre.

Thank you, Sir.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first point raised by my Friend, Mr. Choudhury, is about the out-break of small-pox cases in the Barpeta and Gauhati

Subdivisions, but from the report, I have received, is that there is no out-break of small pox cases at Barpeta and Gauhati Subdivisions. On enquiry I come to learn that these are chicken pox cases, which are not preventive diseases according to medical experts. I may inform the hon. Members of the House that for prevention of out-break of small-pox cases as well as other epidemic diseases we have got enough staff to deal with the situation in a systematic way.

To control epidemics of any diseases we have got 104 Rural Health Inspectors, 80 Health Assistants, and 56 Vaccinators (Vaccinators appointed by the Municipal Boards and Local Boards are excluded) and Sir, these officers are posted in different thana areas of the State. Over and above this, Sir, we generally arrange a temporary staff if and when necessary to cope with the situation whenever epidemics break out. Sir, I shall also give figures how the incidence of small-pox cases have considerably come down. In 1952 there were 486 attacks and 188 deaths, in 1953, 120 attacks and 39 deaths, in 1954, 56 attacks and 17 deaths and in 1955, only 5 attacks and no death. So, Sir, from these figures the hon. Members will realise what steps have been taken by the Public Health Department to reduce the incidence of epidemic diseases. Sir, my Friend, Mr. Choudhury, has also complained that these Vaccinators are not trained. I may tell my Friend that so far the plains districts are concerned most of the Vaccinators are Local Boards employees. These Local Boards' Vaccinators are for six months or so and in some cases they are appointed on permanent basis.

I may tell the hon. Mover of the Cut Motion that the Vaccinators are trained before they are allowed to go and work in the field, so they are not untrained. Sir, I want to know whether my Friend will still say that there has been an outbreak of small-pox cases in Barpeta and Gauhati Subdivisions. If the hon. Mover of the Cut Motion gives me specific instances, I will certainly enquire into the matter.....

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY : At Boko Thana within a week six persons died of small-pox cases.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) : Sir, I shall direct the Director of Health Services to make immediate enquiry and see how it can be tackled.

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHOUDHURY : May I know why the lymphs do not act effectively ?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister says it is chicken pox, you say it is small-pox.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister): Sir, sometime it is effective and sometimes it is not ?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Choudhury will you withdraw your Cut Motion ?

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn).

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 14,36,483 under Grant No. 18, Major head—39,—Public Health, Minor head—C—Epidemic Diseases (total), at page 147 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

By this Cut Motion I want to criticise Government about inadequacy of preventive drugs.

Sir, I take this opportunity to congratulate the very hard working and ill-paid staff of the Public Health Department who did valuable service during the last series of floods, and at that time as an humble relief worker I felt that they are very badly handicapped in certain respects and we also felt the difficulties very keenly. That is with regard to the inadequacy of the different varieties of disinfectants, *viz.*, Bleaching Powder, D. D. T., Anti-Malarial Oil, etc., Sir, we all know that as soon as the floods subside, there is a great danger for epidemic. At that time we find a greater danger from the mosquitoes and other insects and parasites which take advantage of the tired and ill-fed flood stricken people and the toll of suffering from these diseases increase abnormally. At that time if the Public Health Department be not in a position to help the people with the different disinfectant, in spite of the hard work of the ill-paid staff of the Public Health Department, the effected people cannot get the much-needed help. So the object of my bringing this motion is to urge upon the Government to see the necessity for the future, because nobody can say what might happen during the next rainy season. As discretion is the better part of valour, I think, it is better for the Government to be equipped with the different disinfectant drugs, so that the Public Health personnel may render effective help to the flood affected people in this respect. In order to urge upon the Government to have sufficient stock of such disinfectant drugs, so that they may be made available in case of need, I have tabled this Cut Motion and with these words, Sir, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Cut motion moved is: That the provision of Rs. 14,36,483 under Grant No. 18, Major head—39.—Public Health, Minor Head—C—Epidemic Diseases, (total), at page 147 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 59,51,200 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri HARINARAYAN BARUAH : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমার মাননীয় বন্ধু শ্রীযুত গৌবীশঙ্কর ভট্টাচার্য্যই, যিটো কর্তৃক প্রস্তাব, এই সদনত উপস্থাপিত কৰিছে—তাৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰিবলৈ মই থিয় দিছো আৰু জনস্বাস্থ্য বিভাগৰ কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ কাৰ্য্য তৎপৰতাৰ প্ৰতি এই সদনত যিখিনি শলাগ লোৱা হৈছে—ময়ো তাত সমৰ্থন জনাইছো। বাস্তবিকতে দেশৰ দুৰ্যোগৰ সময়ত জনসাধাৰণৰ উপকাৰার্থে এই বিভাগৰ কৰ্মী সকলে অশেষ পৰিশ্ৰম কৰি আহিছে আৰু চৰকাৰেও ৰাজ্যৰ বিভিন্ন ঠাইত আৱশ্যক অনুযায়ী একো একোখন ‘হস্পিটেল’ পাতি ধন্যবাদৰ পাত্ৰ হৈছে। ‘হস্পিটেল’ আদি পাতি দিছে যদিও, ইয়াক চলাবলৈ আৱশ্যকীয় সঁজুলি আৰু ঔষধ পাতি—সকলো সময়তে যোগান ধৰিব নোৱাৰাৰ হেতু—স্বকলমে কাম চলা নাই।

(Voice—আপুনি বিৰোধীতা কৰিছেনে—সমৰ্থন কৰিছে ?)

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : আপোনাৰ লগতনো মোৰ পাৰ্থক্য কোন্ খিনিত ?

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, শিবসাগৰ মহকুমাত গৰুলাবজাৰ মৌজাত কলাজুৰৰ প্ৰকোপ ইমান বৃদ্ধি হৈছে যে মৌজাৰ অধিকাংশ লোকেই কলাজুৰত আক্ৰান্ত হৈছে এই ঠাইলৈগৈ আমাৰ মাননীয় স্বাস্থ্যবিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে নিজে দেখি আহিছে। এই অঞ্চলৰ বাহিৰে তাত এটা কলাজুৰৰ হাসপাতাল লাগে বুলি আবেদন নিবেদন কৰা স্বত্বেও চৰকাৰে সেই হাসপাতাল দিয়াৰ সিদ্ধান্ত এতিয়ালৈকে একো কৰিব নোৱাৰাটো অতি পৰিতাপৰ কথা হৈছে। এই অঞ্চলৰ বাহিৰে হাসপাতালটোৰ কাৰণে আৱশ্যকীয় সহায় আদি দিবলৈকে ৰাজি আছে। আশাকৰো চৰকাৰে অতি সোনকালে এই বিষয়ে বিবেচনা কৰিব।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমগুৰি আৰু প্ৰাৰ্থিতীয়া মৌজাৰ বৰহোলাত এখন জনস্বাস্থ্য বিভাগৰ হাসপাতাল আছে। এই হাসপাতাল খনৰ ঘৰটোৰ অৱস্থা একেবাৰে শোঁকলগা। তাৰোপৰি এই অঞ্চলটো জনজাতি অঞ্চল সেই কাৰণে এই দুখীয়া বাহিৰে সকলৰ উপকাৰার্থে আমাৰ চৰকাৰে অথ সাহায্য দি হাসপাতাল ঘৰটো যেন অতি সোনকালে স্থায়ী ঘৰ হিচাবে কৰি দিয়ে।

তাৰ পিচত, বুদ্ধপুত্ৰৰ দক্ষিণ পাৰে অৰ্থাৎ যোৰহাট অঞ্চলৰ বালিগাঁও, টিয়ক, চাওমাট, হাতিগড় আদি অঞ্চল সমূহত বছৰি বানপানী হয় বানপানীৰ পিচত সেই অঞ্চল সমূহত বছৰি নানা ৰকমৰ বেমাৰ ব্যাধিয়ে দেখা দি আহিছে। সেই কাৰণে সেই অঞ্চল সমূহত জনস্বাস্থ্য বিভাগৰ পৰা একোজন হেলথ ইন্স্পেক্টৰ নিযুক্ত কৰিবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলো। সৰ্ব্ব শেষত চৰকাৰৰ জন কল্যাণ মূলক কামৰ কাৰণে ধন্যবাদ জনাওঁ।

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, for his sincere appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Public Health Department especially during the last floods. Sir, I

am not prepared to accept the statement made by my Friend that there has been any shortage of the preventive drugs here in our State. On the other hand, Sir, we have got sufficient quantities of preventive drugs ; even we have got surplus stocks in our hand now, which will be available to meet any future emergency. If my Friend, Sri Bhattacharyya, points out the locality where there is the shortage of such preventive drugs, certainly I shall see that sufficient drugs are sent there.

Regarding the point raised, by my Friend, Sri Harinarayan Barua about the repair of certain Public Health Dispensary somewhere in Barhola, I do not know the exact position there. There is provision for repairs to such Dispensaries which are in dilapidated condition and I shall see whether I can include the Barhola Public Health Dispensary and give some amount for reconstruction of that Dispensary. He has also stated that the people of the Gadhulibazar area are very much hard hit on account of the spread of the *Kala-azar* disease there. I have been there personally and contacted the people. We have as many as 4 out centres and we have specially appointed a doctor to make a survey of the whole area and also to tackle the situation. The question now is this, Sir, probably, the people at Gadhulibazar area want an independent Public Health dispensary in that area. We are concentrating our activities in those areas which were so long neglected. Sir, we have adopted a policy that within the radius of 5 miles we are trying to give dispensaries but Gadhulibazar area, so far as I remember, will be less than 5 miles from Jaji and in view of the fact that we have opened as many as 4 out centres and the fact that we have specially deputed one doctor for that area, I think the situation will improve. Now, Sir, with these few words, I hope my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, will see his way to withdraw his Cut Motion.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : In view of the assurance from the Minister, I beg to withdraw.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I put the main Motion :

The question is that a sum of Rs.59,51,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

(The Motion was adopted.)

Adjournment

(The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 P. M.)

After Lunch

GRANT No.49

(81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account)

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister) : Mr. Speaker Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.1,69,47,200 (Rupees one crore, sixty-nine lakhs, forty-seven thousand and two hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956 for the administration of the head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,69,47,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in the course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for administration of the head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account".

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

GRANT No.52

(85-A.—Capital outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading)

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.28,69,800 (Rupees twenty-eight lakhs sixty-nine thousand and eight hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for administration of the head "85-A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion Moved is that a sum of Rs.28,69,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "85-A.—Capital Outlay on State Schemes of Government Trading".

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

GRANT No. 34

57—Miscellaneous—(I—Expenditure on Account of State Prisoners and Detenues, etc.)

Shri BISHNURAM MEDHI (Chief Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.4,18,800 (Rupees four lakhs, eighteen thousand and eight hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous (I "Expenditure on Account of State Prisoners and detenues, etc.)".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.4,18,800 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—Expenditure on Account of State Prisoners and Detenues, etc.)".

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I am not moving my Cut Motion, Sir.

(The original Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted.)

GRANT No.35

57.—Miscellaneous—(II—Donation for Charitable purposes, etc.)

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.17,70,500 (Rupees seventeen lakhs, seventy thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(II—Donation for Charitable purposes)".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs 17.70,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57—Miscellaneous—(II--Donation for Charitable purposes)".

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: I am not moving my Cut Motion, Sir.

(The original Motion was then put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted.)

Grant No. 36

(57.—Miscellaneous—III—Contributions)

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAJUMDAR (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, a sum of Rs.2,49,900 (Rupees two lakhs, forty-nine thousand and nine hundred) be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions)".

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that, a sum of Rs. 2,49,900 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions)."

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that, the total provision of Rs. 2,49,900 under Grant No. 36, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions), at page 293 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.2,49,900 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Sir, I move this Motion to criticise unprincipled Government nomination to Municipal Boards. Sir, as was said about Hamlet, "Methinks there's method in his madness" it might be said that our Government also has a policy in their unprincipled nomination to the different Municipal bodies and that policy is one of favouritism and dumping the bye-products of the Congress machinery, on the unwilling shoulders of these bodies. But having seen what havoc has been created by this type of nomination of an official Chairman of the Shillong Municipal Board where even in small matters as preparation of electoral rolls there are more incorrect than correct entries, having seen how to a very small Body like Dimapur an unwanted Punjabi is nominated in spite of the fact that from his family there is already one member, having seen how an unwanted Chairman is thrust on the unwilling Municipal Board of Tinsukia, and having seen the type of nomination to fill up the place vacated by late Dr. J. C. Das at Gauhati, we are in a position to say that it will be unjust on our part if we do not raise our voice of protest against this sort of affairs because there is a proverb in Assamese—"সভাত থাকি নকয় উচিত, দোষে পায় কিঞ্চিৎ কিঞ্চিৎ।" though we, no doubt, know that

the Government appears to have taken up a stand of (in Bengali) আর আয়াদের লজ্জা নেই। Even then, as people do not approve of such a stand, we should try our best to induce the Government to have some sense of decency in these public matters. Therefore, Sir, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs. 2,49,900 under Grant No. 36, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions), at page 293 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 2,49,900 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 2,49,900 under Grant No. 36, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions), at page 293 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 2,49,900 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

My intention is to raise a discussion about the payment of contributions to different Local Boards by the Government. So far as I remember, on the last occasion Mr. Bezbarua raised a discussion how during the last three or four years, when grants for development of roads or supply of drinking water in the rural areas are made by Government, they generally adopt the principle of earmarking amounts for particular areas or for particular projects. The disadvantage is that all local difficulties are not known to the Government. In previous times, 3 or 4 years back, contributions were made to the Local Boards and the Local Boards on their turn allotted funds for different roads and tanks. But now there is a deviation from that old recognised and much better principle. We now find where there is no necessity for drinking water that grant has been made to such a place for a tank. For example, I can cite the case of Badarpur bazar. There, Sir, a very big tank is maintained by the Local Board and yet last year Government sanctioned two to three thousand rupees for another tank in the bazar area, but as the bazar is a congested area, no land was available and therefore the Local Board could not spend the money in that year and it could not also be diverted to some other places where there are acute scarcity of water. So considering all these points I request the Government to go back to that old principle of granting money to the Local Bodies so that they may distribute it according to their needs for different roads or tanks without earmarking the same.

Just now I have received a telegram from Karimganj which reads as follows :—

“Severe cyclone on twenty-first night causing heavy damages to burning ghat sweeper line, buildings electric lines and fall of private buildings approximate value of municipal loss ten thousand—Vice-Chairman, Municipality.”

I bring it to the notice of the House, particularly the Minister, so that in distributing the grants some consideration is made to this damage of Karimganj Municipality. I have also seen in the paper that heavy damage was done by cyclone in the Karimganj Subdivision, and the damage so far as the Municipality is concerned would go to the tune of ten thousand as it is written in the telegram. My request to the Minister is that when distribution of grants is made for the next year all these points should be taken into consideration. With these words I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved :

That the total provision of Rs. 2,49,900 under Grant No. 36 Major head—57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions), at page 293 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, that is, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 2,49,900 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Maulavi ABDUL MATLIB MAZUMDAR (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the speech of my Friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya I take it that he has not expressed any voice of protest against the principle of nomination. He has only pointed out certain specific instances of nomination which have been made by this Government and he has said that the persons thus nominated were not suitable to the places where nominations have been given. He has mentioned the instance of Tinsukia Municipality. So far as circumstances permitted and so far as Government were informed of the facts and various circumstances of Tinsukia Municipality, the nomination was given after due consideration and the person who has been nominated, we can take it, has always the confidence of a large number of population living in a vast area including Tinsukia. So it may be taken that the nomination has been proper.

Regarding the Gauhati Municipality, the nomination in place of Dr. J. C. Das was also given after due consideration. Before making the nomination, people who represent the Municipality, and other important organisations who can reasonably advise Government, all these were consulted. So this nomination also was made after due consideration and the hon. Member has not mentioned specifically that for such and such rea-

sons the gentleman is not capable of carrying on the responsibility which devolved on him. I therefore think his objection does not hold good.

As regards Mr. Das's contention, he has pointed out that at Badarpur Bazar there is one reserve tank maintained by the Local Board and money was granted for another tank. So far as I remember this grant was made for a tube well; I have no information yet whether the sinking of the tube well has been possible. But, Sir, Badarpur is a very populous and congested area and he has admitted that himself. For the purpose of drinking water one tank is not enough in a vast area like Badarpur. Moreover Local Board tanks are not always maintained according to proper instruction and it cannot be expected that, that tank can be sufficient to supply good drinking water to all the places in the Bazar and to the station area. This earmarking was done at the request of, as far as I remember, one representative of the people. He represented that the necessity of a tube well was dire and people were suffering for want of good drinking water. On that consideration only a tube well was granted to that area.

Regarding cyclone damages referred to by Mr. Das, the matter will be given due consideration when report through proper channel comes and when demand is made for help.

Sir, I have explained the action of the Government in nominating persons and also the reason of earmarking grants which has been done in the past. And as regards the damage done by the cyclone also I have said that due consideration will be given. Now I request my Friends to withdraw their Cut Motions.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Das, do you withdraw your Motion?

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Yes, Sir.

(The Cut Motion was, by leave of the House withdrawn.)

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Bhattacharyya?

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: No, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then the question is that the total provision of Rs.2,49,900 under Grant No.36, Major head—57.—Miscellaneous—(III—Contributions), at page 293 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.2,49,900 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(The Motion was negatived.)

Now the question is that a sum of Rs.2.49,900 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—"57.—Miscellaneous—(III.—Contributions)".

(The Motion was adopted.)

Grant No. 37

57.—Miscellaneous—(IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.4,73,100 (Rupees four lakhs seventy-three thousand and one hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—"57.—Miscellaneous—(IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.4,73,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—"57.—Miscellaneous (IV.—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)".

Shri RADHACHARAN CHOUDHURY: Sir, as this matter was discussed the other day in the floor of this House. I do not like to move my Cut Motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: All right. Now the question is that a sum of Rs.4,73,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—"57.—Miscellaneous—(IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)".

(The Motion was adopted.)

Grant No. 38**57.—Miscellaneous—(V—Pooled Transport and contribution, etc.)**

Shri SIDDHINATH SARMA (Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,54,900 (Rupees one lakh fifty-four thousand and nine hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“57.—Miscellaneous—(V—Pooled Transport and contribution, etc.)”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,54,900 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“57.—Miscellaneous—(V.—Pooled Transport and contribution, etc.)”.

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted)

Grant No.39**57.—Miscellaneous—(VI—Expenditure on displaced persons)**

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.25,25,100 (Rupees twenty-five lakhs, twenty-five thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“57.—Miscellaneous—(VI—Expenditure on displaced persons).”

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.25,25,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head—“57.—Miscellaneous—(VI—Expenditure on displaced persons).”

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.25,25,100 under Grant No.39, Major head- 57.—Miscellaneous—(VI—Expenditure on displaced persons) at page 296 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1., *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.25,25,100 do stand reduced by Re.1.

I have moved this Cut Motion, Sir, to draw the attention of the Government to two very important aspects of this relief and rehabilitation question.

First of all it is that the Government should see that really deserving persons get relief, because the experience is that in the name of refugees and taking the garb of refugees many non-refugees and undeserving persons also have taken advantage of the country's and Government's helping attitude. This should be checked and it should be seen that only deserving persons get relief.

The second aspect on which I want to lay stress is that when some relief for the purpose of rehabilitation is given it should not be just like giving alms to a beggar. The rehabilitation should be such as will enable the recipients to be socially useful persons so that they can utilise that help for productive purposes. The other day some hon. Members expressed regret, rather disappointment at the fact that ordinary people, 'third grade' people, have come to our State. Well, I do not know what they mean by 'third grade' or 'ordinary' people. If they mean peasants and tillers for the reason that they have come not very decently dressed, should they be termed as third grade or ordinary people? I should say they are welcome because they are not exploiters, they are not intermediaries. They are producers. They have come to work and live if adequate provision is made for their work. We should welcome those actual workers who will till and produce. Therefore, Sir, at the time of giving rehabilitation we should see that those persons get proper avenues for utilising their labour in a socially useful way.

With these words, Sir, I commend my Motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.25,25,100 under Grant No. 39, Major head- 57.—Miscellaneous—(VI—Expenditure on displaced persons) at

page 296 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1., *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.25,25,100 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Mr. Das may move his Cut Motion.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.25,25,100, under Grant No.39, Major head 57.—Miscellaneous—(VI—expenditure on displaced persons) at page 296 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.25,25,100, do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, আমি আজকে বাংলাতেই বলব।

Shri. A. ALLEY: Sir, we cannot follow Bengali. So, it is better if he speaks in English.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: All right then, I shall speak in English in honour of my Friend, Mr. Alley, who is also interested in refugee rehabilitation of the State.

In discussing this matter of rehabilitation of the refugees by the Government of Assam it should be started from the fact whether this Government is really wanting to help the refugees and whether they are doing their duty sincerely or this is forced on them against their will.

Sir, I tried to explain on different occasions that the Government of Assam showed an antipathy towards the refugees from the very beginning. I have materials in my custody to prove that the contention I am bringing before the House is correct. First I shall refer to the Circular No.RS. 195/47/108, dated the 4th May, 1948. By that Circular Government had warned their District Officers. The circular runs like this:

“Government cannot allow mass infiltration of the refugees which in effect is likely to upset the racial equilibrium in the Province. Transfer of land should not be recognised and the principle laid down should be strictly enforced”. Then again, Sir, by Circular No. L801/47, dated 28th May, 1948 they directed the district officers to restrict registration of refugees in the Electoral Rolls. “District officers-in-charge of the preparation of Electoral Rolls were directed to note that—Non-resident population are not qualified to be

registered as voters. They may be staying with friends, relations as refugees. Great caution will be necessary on the part of your staff to see that not a single individual of this class manages to creep into the Electoral Rolls by any chance”.

I do not want to comment. Members of the House will themselves judge the propriety of these circulars.

Now we know that the Government of Assam invited option from officers serving in Sylhet during the pre-partition days, and in accordance to this about 400 officers including some Professors of Murarichand College serving in Sylhet opted to serve in India and came over to serve in Assam. They were given assurance by the Government of India and Assam that they would be provided on the same pay, allowance and service conditions would be the same as they used to enjoy previously. But unfortunately many of these officers were not appointed at all even this day, and in the case of those who were appointed they are not getting the pay and emoluments and allowances they used to get prior to their coming over here. In this connection several cases were filed against the Government of Assam in the Assam High Court and in one or two cases, action of the Government was held to be wrong by the Hon'ble High Court. Even after this judgment of High Court all these persons including Professors could not be employed by the Government. Sir, I would also like to refer here to the opinion of Shri Mohan Lal Seksana who was the Minister-in-charge of Relief and Rehabilitation, Government of India in the year 1950. He said, “The refugees who have got into the State of Assam are there in spite of the unhelpful attitude of the State Government.” Regarding the opinion of Mr. Chanda, Secretary, Central Government, Relief Department, I don't like to repeat as the matter was thoroughly discussed. I demand that there should be an enquiry. Now, Sir, we do not find correct figures of the refugees coming to Cachar District. In the year 1951, the Finance Minister said in his Budget Speech that the number of refugees in Cachar was 2,83,400. Then in reply to a question in the year 1954, he gave out the figure to be 1,35,422. The Census Report of 1951 gives the figure at 93,177. All these figures are contradictory. So it is quite obvious that there is no correct data of the Government of Assam so far as population figure of refugees in Cachar District is concerned. Now, Mr. Bora, the Finance Minister, while speaking about the

rehabilitation of the refugees, said that rehabilitation in Assam is complete and that he only requires a few lakhs of rupees from the Government of India, and by that he would make the refugee problem tip-top. But when Mr. Mookerjee took over the Relief and Rehabilitation Department the demand for money, it seems, greatly increased. We know from what Mr. Mookerjee said both inside and outside the Assembly that the demand for money is not in the tune of lakhs but in the tune of crores. Sir, I do not know how to reconcile these big disparities.

Sir, you will be surprised to know that Circulars have also been issued to the Central Employment Exchanges "not to accept people as refugees merely on affidavits and other credentials" though these are the documents which are accepted by the Government of India. Even in the matter of appointment of primary School teachers, Government have issued a Circular—Circular No. PSB/42/53-54296-36, dated Shillong the 7th May, 1954—by which Government have ordered District Education Boards not to appoint any refugee as Lower Primary School teacher without previous permission of the Provincial School Board. I would therefore like to refer this matter to the Relief and Rehabilitation Department of the Government of India for their consideration and necessary action as they deem fit. Sir in the year 1950 influx of refugees in Cachar was the highest—it was to the tune of 5 to 6 thousand per day during the hectic days immediately following the rioting in East Bengal and daily death roll at that time was up to 10 to 12 persons. At that time I as the Chairman of the Karimganj Local Board and Municipality sent a telegram to the Government of Assam asking for help in money, medicines, doctors, compounders and others. But unfortunately the Government of Assam refused to render any assistance and sent a telegram that there was acute dearth of doctors and benevolently advised us to manage by public donations. On the following day Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhury, Member of Parliament happened to visit Karimganj and we approached him. He advised us to send a telegram to Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, Chief Minister, West Bengal and another to Mohónlal Seksana. The first telegram was sent by our present Relief and Rehabilitation Minister, Shri Mookerjee and a second one was sent by me. Sir, just compare and contrast the attitudes between the two Governments—(1) the Government of Assam under whose jurisdiction we are and the other, the Government of Bengal, a neighbouring State. Sir, at once on receipt of our telegram, West Bengal Government sent us 8 doctors, with medicines, disinfectus, food all free of cost and these reached us within 3 days. On the other hand

as the Secretary of Assam Earthquake Relief Committee, Karimganj, I sent Rs.15,000 to Governor's fund for the help of the suffering humanity in Assam but not a single penny was sent to Cachar in the national cries and suffering of humanity in mass scale.

Mr. SPEAKER: You seem to be telling us fairy stories.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : But these are bare facts. I challenge Government to refute these facts and prove it as a story. The other day Professor Meghnad Saha visited Karimganj. He expressed his surprise at the contrast between the conditions of refugees in Assam and West Bengal. He said West Bengal Government have not been able to do as much as the East Punjab Government in the matter of refugee rehabilitation—as a matter of fact, we are told, refugees there live in well furnished pucca houses, but he was taken by painful surprise to see the wretched living condition of the refugees at Karimganj and Silchar. I have already stated, Sir, the condition of refugees in West Bengal is far from enviable, but even then let us make a comparative study of the work done by this Government and the Government of West Bengal. Now first let me start with the question of reclamation of lands for refugees. Government of West Bengal have taken up 8 Reclamation schemes with 15,000 acres of land. 16 more schemes will be sanctioned shortly; another scheme of reclamation of an area covering 700 bighas of land near Baranagar has been taken up for rehabilitation of 2,500 families. They have not, like the Assam Government, asked the refugees to go to jungles and hills to live with wild beasts or to lands which are disputed with local people. Assam Government have opened not a single reserve for settlement of refugees, nor have they given an acre of Government lands to the refugees not to speak of any reclamation Scheme. This is the condition in Assam.

Mr. SPEAKER: Land does not come in under this head; so you may avoid this point.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : I now come to the *jabar dakhil* colonies, i.e., squatters' colonies. In West Bengal they have regularised these *jabar dakhil* colonies and they are also trying to amend Article 31 of the Constitution of India in order to recognise the right of the refugees. But, here in Assam, what do we find? We find mass scale evictions are

going on, elephants are being engaged and Deputy Commissioners are ordered to dismantle and burn the houses of the refugees!

So far as Education is concerned, nothing has been done in our State. In West Bengal schemes for 15 new colleges near about Calcutta have been sanctioned. Here in Assam, if my information is correct, the Rehabilitation Department is willing to make some contributions to the schools and colleges for the admission of refugee boys. But, Sir, during the last 3 years the scheme has not been finalised by the Education Department. That shows the antipathy of the Education Department towards the refugees in the State.

(The bell rang)

Sir, the other day I said that not a single penny was spent from the State Exchequer of Assam. In West Bengal, a sum of Rs.4½ crores has been spent. The other day the Minister said that in Assam two lakhs have been spent, being half of the pay of the officers serving in Relief and Rehabilitation Department in the Assam Valley—the pay of the officers serving in the Cachar district is being borne fully by the Government of India.

(The bell rang again).

Taking all these factors into consideration I say, Sir, that the refugees in Assam are getting treatment from the Assam Government under Mr. Medhi and Bora no better than Indians in Ceylon or in South Africa under Dr. Malan and General Smutts.

Mr. SPEAKER: Cut Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.25,25,100, under Grant No.39. Major head—57.—Miscellaneous—(VI.—Expenditure on displaced persons) at page 269 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of whole grant of Rs.25,25,100, do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall first meet the points raised by Shri Bhattacharyya. His first point was that only the real refugees should get loan. I fully agree with him and I think this is the desire of everybody. But when he has raised this point, most probably he has learnt that some undeserving persons also have got loans, undeserving in the sense that they are not refugees in the strictest sense of the term—those who probably came to Assam before Partition and took advantage of the situation. (Mr. Speaker: And of the definition, I think). Yes, Sir.

Now, as I said, Sir, I am really at one with Shri Bhattacharyya on this point. I cannot deny that there are instances where undeserving persons got loans. But we are trying to eliminate them as far as possible. Sometimes it becomes difficult for the investigating officer, who has to rely on the evidence of the local people, to determine who are genuine refugees. Sometimes, these people and those who have got registration cards live side by side and it is difficult for the investigating officer to distinguish between them. There were some cases where officers were misled and some undeserving persons got loan. But we are trying our best to see that only the genuine displaced persons get loan.

Sir, Shri Bhattacharyya raised another point that the refugees should be given adequate amounts of loan; though he did not use this word, his intention was this. Here also, Sir, as I said on another occasion, I personally do not like the idea of giving loans by instalments. That does not help anybody. I have already taken up the matter with the Central Government to place sufficient funds at our disposal so that instead of giving something to everybody just to tide over the present difficulty, we can give some reasonable amount which is absolutely necessary for the rehabilitation of the loanee. Even at present I am trying to do that. Though I have not yet been fully successful in my negotiations with the Central Government as I could not get the required amount, still, as I said the other day, I was able to get an extra amount of Rs.25 lakhs during the last quarter of the current year, when our total budget on loan account was nearabout 75 to 80 lakhs. We have asked for a greater amount and if we get it and if we can complete the investigation work, the deserving persons would get loan as early as possible and also in adequate quantity according to the nature and categories of the cases.

Now, Sir, regarding Shri Das; he has raised several points. He has challenged the *bona fides* and sincerity of this Government. I think after so many years of Partition this question should not have been raised by my Friend, Shri Das. He has quoted certain notifications which were issued by this Government in 1948. He has read it. If he can produce the original copy, in that case I am ready to accept it, otherwise I say it is not a fact. He wants to create an impression that such a circular was issued at that time.....

Mr. SPEAKER : Your contention is that your Government did not issue it?

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) : Yes, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER : If it is sent to you, will you enquire ? That is the best course.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) : Yes, Sir, if I see the original, in that case I shall be satisfied what Shri Das has said is true.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : How can I give you the original ? I can give a copy of the circular.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) : It might be that some persons just wanted to vilify the Government and manufactured such a case, of course I don't impute that he has done with that motive. He has done it with the best of his belief, but it is very difficult to take it as he has stated.

Now, Sir, there was another point which he has conveniently forgotten which he should not have done. Sir, his information relates to the district of Cachar. If I say so, I hope he won't contradict me. Sir, so far relief and rehabilitation problems were concerned in the district of Cachar, they were in the hands of the Central Government. My Friend has said that they were given lands infested with animals and full of jungles and all that. Who was responsible for this ? Has this Government any say in the matter ? My Friend has said that he was speaking from his experience. If I may be allowed to say something without divulging any secret—that there was a feeling prevailing at that time in Cachar amongst some persons that if the relief and rehabilitation problems were left to the Assam Government for their solution, in that case the refugees would not get fair dealings in the hands of the Assam Government. Such suspicions were there from the very beginning. Sir, the Central Government submitted to the desire of some leaders at that time. How can Central Government manage these affairs from Delhi ? They may give money. The State Government was looked upon with suspicion and what can the State Government do, if they are not allowed to play their part, they will certainly watch it, they won't take any interest. So, Sir, the State Government has to keep a watch only over the matter. Whatever assistance was asked they gave, otherwise Central Government would not have spared the State Government, Sir, my Friend has stated in the House that

Shri Mohanlall Seksana, the then Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation Department, had said about the unhelpful attitude of the State Government towards the refugees. Sir, I did not know anything about this remark of Shri Seksana. If he had done it, he did a very wrong thing. If I am to give my personal opinion, I could never imagine how a responsible gentleman like Shri Seksana could have made this most discourteous statement which is against all sense of decency. We know that in the Central Legislature, one of the Ministers three years back passed certain remarks against this Government and he was compelled to withdraw it with apologies. My Friend has said that I have to accept the statement made by Shri Seksana ; I have got a right to see it and unless I see some authentic document, I am not going to accept it.

Then, Sir, my Friend, Shri Das, also made mention about the Bengali officers of Sylhet who opted for India at the initiation and guarantee of the Government of Assam and that some of them were discharged and some who were employed were not given the pay scale they were promised to draw. Sir, it is very difficult to say anything on this point ; if my Friend can give concrete cases, that can be looked into. Sir, I am speaking subject to correction. One of the Professors who opted for Indian Union was previously a Professor of Murarichand College at Sylhet and he was accordingly appointed by the Government in the Gauhati Cotton College. I think the same Professor is the Principal of the Gauhati Cotton College now. That is my information, Sir, but I am subject to correction. Now, Sir, how can my Friend say in general that such officers who opted for Indian Union were not accommodated ? Now, Sir, there are other officers also, some of them could not be accommodated, I do not know the reasons, because I know very little of what happened at that time. Whether they acted according to the rules or not, some how they could not be accommodated and they became dissatisfied and went to the Law Courts. I am not in a position to reply to all these things off-hand, Sir. Then, Sir, another point was raised by my Friend that when my colleague, Shri Bora, was the Minister-in-charge of this particular department at that time Shri Bora wanted only a few lakhs of rupees to solve this difficult problem of relief and rehabilitation.

Sir, I cannot reconcile with my Friend on this.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : That assurance was given by the then Finance Minister years before.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister) : In this connection also Sir, I shall be very much obliged if my Friend can show me not to-day or tomorrow sometime soon when Shri Bora said this. Now my Friend has raised another point as to why do I want more money,

Sir, my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, has raised a point that in the past adequate amount was not given to the displaced persons and the reasons I have already stated. Sir, my Friend, Shri Das, in his overzealousness has taken a wrong course, but the course taken by my Friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, is just giving concrete suggestions, that these are the difficulties, etc., and that Government should see and try to remove them, deserves thanks. Sir, in a democratic country that sort of attitude should be adopted, instead of vilifying and charging Government without any reason behind it, won't help us to solve the problem.

Mr. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether you are sympathetic towards the refugees.

Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Here I crave your indulgence, Sir. My reply will be the same as that my Friend, if such question is put to him. Let him say whether I am sympathetic towards the refugees. Let him say Yes or No. (Shri Ranendra Mohan Das—Yes, yes, Sir). The reply is there, Sir. He admits that I am sympathetic towards the refugees.

Now, Sir, my Friend has cited some instances which happened in 1950. It is quite true that the influx was very heavy at that time and it was really physically impossible for the small town of Karimganj to accommodate all the refugees. When we realised the gravity of the situation after two or three days' influx, we had to approach the Central Government, the Assam Government and the West Bengal Government, to tide over the difficult situation. So far as the medical assistance is concerned, some organisations who came forward to render help voluntarily, we took advantage of these Organisations. That was done and there was no question of sitting tight out of vanity as has been mentioned by my Friend. At that time, I was President of the Karimganj District Congress Committee. We wrote to all Friends to help these unfortunate refugees. At that time we tried our best to tide over the difficulties. I am not going to take any pride by mentioning here, but it was at my intervention that the Central Government directed the Railway authorities to issue free passes to the refugees for going to different places and States (Sri Ranendra Mohan Das—Yes) who wanted to travel to any destination they like, because it was felt that unless it was done there will be no existence of a small town like Karimganj and most probably of the major part of the district of Cachar. The rush was so heavy. We all played our part. There were of course few cases of deaths. Some people came with some diseases, they fell victims to those diseases. Again some people took some food to which they were not accustomed and developed some diseases thereby. But that state of affairs did not continue for long and the position improved. My Friend, Shri

Das who was the Chairman of the Municipal Board probably had to spend many nights without sleep, but he was not the only person to do so but there were others too, I hope he agrees. Now, Sir, to say that this Government did not extend the helping hand whereas the West Bengal Government extended the help is most unkind. The then Subdivisional Officer, Shri Dharmananda Das—(We are in the habit of cursing the officers)—I am sure my Friend, Shri Ranendra Mohan Das will agree with me, played his part well. Now who is that Shri Dharmananda Das? Is he not an officer of the Assam Government? Who is Shri Ranendra Mohan Das? Is he not the Chairman of the Karimganj Municipal Board and an inhabitant of the State of Assam. Who is Shri Baidyanath Mookerjee? Is he also not an inhabitant of this State? My Friend has mentioned about telegram. I have my doubts about the exact wording of the telegram. I cannot believe that the Government of Assam would say that they could not extend their help and that they directed or rather advised that only the co-operation of the people should be sought for solving the problem. Most probably Government wanted to mean that Government would try their best to help, but they should rather try to take the help of local doctors also. I cannot believe, Sir, that any Government or person can be so inhuman as to say that he cannot give any help in such a situation. I do not think there is any human being in the crescendom as to say like this that he will not give any shelter to a person who is placed under such circumstances.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think you gave all these before.
Shri BAIDYANATH MOOKERJEE (Minister): Yes, Sir. But the difficulty is that, Sir, when such charges are made and especially when it concerns these unfortunate victims of circumstances, these unfortunate displaced persons and the sincerity and the *bona fides* and honesty of the Government is challenged, it requires some explanation. However, as I have already said and as some of these points have most probably been met by my predecessor also, I am not going to take more time of the House.

Now, Sir, regarding the squatters' colonies, my Friend said that there is জবর দখল. This is not a correct word. Either it should be জোর দখল or জবরদস্তি দখল। That is the only word he used in Bengali and that too is incorrect. It seems my Friend has forgotten the Bengali as well (*Laughter*). Sir, he has not mentioned the exact places. The position is that there are certain places in the State where not only the displaced persons but other persons squatted, in spite of the restrictive orders and some of them along with the other indigenous people had to be evicted. But those who were evicted, were given alternative land. As regards some land belonging to the Railway Department when we got

the information that the Railway authorities have issued some notices, we requested them to grant some time to the displaced persons concerned. We informed the Railway authorities that we were trying to find out alternative land and until and unless that is done, we requested the Railway authorities not to remove them from those places.

Then my Friend mentioned that this Government spent only two lakhs of rupees since 1947 to 1954, and that also for the Establishment cost. I do not know wherefrom he got this information. I explained the other day, the cost on staff is borne entirely by the Government of India so far as the district of Cachar is concerned, for the other districts it is shared on the ratio of 50 : 50 between the Central Government and the State Government and next year we are going to increase the number of officers and investigators in all the districts to tackle the problem to a very quick solution. It might be that I shall have to come before this hon. House with supplementary demand. Now, Sir, after hearing this, I hope, Shri, Bhattacharyya and Shri Das will see their way to withdraw their Cut Motions.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA : I beg leave of the House to withdraw.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : I am sorry, Sir, I cannot withdraw.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is :

That the total provision of Rs.25,25,100 under Grant No.39, Major head 57.—Miscellaneous—(VI.—Expenditure on displaced persons), at page 296 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.25,25,100, do stand reduced by Re.1.

(The Motion was negatived).

Now I put the main Motion :

The question is that a sum of Rs.25,25,100 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(VI.—Expenditure on displaced persons)."

(The Motion was adopted).

Grant No.40

57.—Miscellaneous (VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc.)

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, to move that a sum of Rs.27,000 (Rupees twenty seven thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc)."

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion Moved is :

That a sum of Rs.27,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(VII.—Advanced Technical Training and Scholarships, etc)."

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No.29

(52.—A—Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes)

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.1,28,600 (Rupees one lakh, twenty-eight thousand and six hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "52.—A.—Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes."

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion Moved is :

That a sum of Rs.1,28,600 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "52.—A.—Other Revenue Expenditure connected with Electricity Schemes."

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted),

Grant No.6**(II.—Registration)**

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam I beg to move that a sum of Rs.2,04,500 (Rupees two lakhs, four thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956 for the administration of the head "11.—Registration."

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is :

That a sum of Rs.2,04,500 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956 for the administration of the head 11.—Registration."

(The Motion was put by the Chair as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No.46**(65.—A.—Capital Outlay on Forests)**

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.7,30,200 (Rupees seven lakhs, thirty thousand and two hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "65.—A.—Capital Outlay on Forests."

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is :

That a sum of Rs.7,30,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "65.—A.—Capital Outlay on Forests."

Maulavi MUHAMMED UMARUDDIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise only to draw the attention of the Government to one particular item which appears in page 335 of the Budget estimates, that is, the money provided for Wild Life Sanctuary. The amount is only Rs.82,000. Sir, I feel

that the action which the Government have been taking for the preservation of wild life has been absolutely inadequate. Sir, we have to tackle this problem and some recommendations have been made to the Government as to how best we can preserve the wild life in our forests. There has been a vast deterioration or rather extermination of game practically all over the State and no effective steps have been taken by this Government to arrest this state of affairs. This provision is not sufficient for this purpose as we require a preventive staff, etc. The Wild Life Advisory Board has recommended certain steps to be taken by this Government for preservation of game and also for the appointment of a game warden and maintenance of adequate subordinate staff under his control so that in various parts of our State where wild life exists some measure of prevention against poaching which is going on undetected for so long may be taken. Sir, that aspect of the problem has been lost sight of and I do not know whether there is any other provision on this score. As this is a scheme more or less on developmental side out of "Capital Outlay," I should think that some money should be provided for it, though I suggest that in the future the Minister-in-charge will see his way to come forward with certain proposals for the preservation of wild life in our State.

Shri RAMNATH DAS (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to my Friend, Maulavi Umaruddin Saheb for the suggestion that he has given for protection of the wild life but I am afraid I cannot agree with him when he says that Government has not so far taken any step towards it (Mr. Speaker—He has said 'effective steps'). Now, Sir, after hearing from me he has modified his statement. The Wild Life Advisory Board recommended certain steps to be taken by the State Government. These recommendations of the State Wild Life Board are still under examination of Government. The very fact that a Wild Life Board has been constituted by the State Government would show that Government is giving their attention for the protection of the wild life which is one of the important aspects of the forest wealth.

This Wild Life Board was not in existence before and my Friend, Maulavi Umaruddin Saheb is a member of the Board. I am glad to say that whenever he comes to attend that Board he gives good suggestions for the improvement of the steps that are being taken and for steps to be taken by the Government. But Sir, whatever recommendations that are made by

the Wild Life Board, they have to be considered finally by the Government for implementation. So, I want to assure him that all the recommendations given by this Board in which he himself is a member, are being considered and that we have not lost sight of the fact that in future we should make more provision than what we have been doing now.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is:

That a sum of Rs. 7,30,200 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "65.—A.—Capital Outlay on Forests".

(The Motion was adopted).

GRANT No.16

(37.—Education)

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg to move that a sum of Rs.3,59,95,000 (Rupees three crores, fifty-nine lakhs and ninety-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "37.—Education".

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that a sum of Rs.3,59,95,000 (Rupees three crores, fifty-nine lakhs and ninety-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1956 for the administration of the head "37.—Education".

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Sir, there are so many cut motions, we will not move all the motions but only important ones. So my submission is that the Hon'ble Education Minister may reply at the end of all cut motions. I think that will be better and it will also save time.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is all right, but I see that No.10 covers all. So this may be moved by Mr. Gogoi.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: But we want that all of us who have moved cut motions will get a chance to speak also.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes. Now Mr. Gogoi.

Shri GHANA KANTA GOGOI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.3,59,95,000 under Grant No.16, Major head 37.—Education, at page 94 of the Budget be reduced by Re.1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.3,59,95,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Sir, my object in moving this motion is to raise a general discussion. But as many of my Friends will be speaking on this cut motion, I will just confine myself to a few words that I feel most important. Sir, it is a very happy sign to find that our Education budget has gone up to the tune of almost 3 crores 60 lakhs. We find that there is expansion of activities of the Education Department in different fields. Sir, one very important thing for our State is to have more and more technical education for our young people. The idea of having two Engineering Colleges in the State is very welcome. And I suggest that there should be at least one Technical School in every subdivision for producing more mechanics and technicians.

Another point to which I want to draw the attention of the Government is that there should be more facilities given to the public to use the Libraries. So I would request Government to establish libraries in every district and subdivision in the State. It is a very happy sign to see that liberal grants have been reserved for development of the different colleges in the matter of buildings, boarding houses, etc. There is also provision for giving scholarships to students of different categories reading in different educational institutions.

Sir, there is also provision for giving aid to 50 Middle English Schools at the rate of Rs.50 each, but I think that this rate is quite inadequate. We want that Government should make provision for giving aid to at least three times that number of schools specially in my part of the country, *i. e.*, Dibrugarh—there I think there are about 10 Middle English Schools who are deserving to receive Government aid.

Another thing that strikes me is the provision of a Public High School at Gauhati. Sir, we find that money to the tune of rupees 5,78,900 has been earmarked for this Public School. I feel Sir, that the sum provided for this school is very heavy. On perusal of the Budget we find that there is provision of only Rs. 26,38,344 for aid to the aided Schools which are about 300 in number. Sir, the amount earmarked for this is only about 1/5th of what has been provided for the Public High School.

Sir, I do not know what will be the justice done to this school? Who will be the teachers who will teach in this school. The provision of pay made for the Headmaster in this Public High School is from Rs.1,200 to Rs.1,500 for the Assistant Headmaster from Rs.500 to Rs.1,000 and for three Faculty Heads from Rs.350 to Rs.850. We find that the pay provided for these teachers in the Public High School is equal to the pay of officers who belong to the highest category in the Education Department. I do not know whether this is justified and I do not know what type of education will be given. Now Sir, our State is having the idea of spreading Basic Education for all. I do not know whether boys who will be trained in these Basic Schools will be eligible for enrolment as students in this Public High School. Sir, it is mentioned that the idea of establishing this Public High School is to train our young people to be future administrators or, in other words, to be rulers for our State. I do not know if there is any such necessity for one type of education to be given to our rulers and another type for others who are apparently to be ruled.

Sir, lastly I want to say that we find that there is no provision for giving aid to the venture schools who are already in existence. Sir, there are many areas in the State specially in Upper Assam, in the Lakhimpur district where there are vast areas inhabited by backward class people, and these areas are very backward and those people did not wake up to organise schools earlier. The people of those backward areas have of late organised high schools and have applied for Government aid and for years they have been denied the aid and they have not got any aid this year also. We do not find any provision for aid to any such high school. If this had been done then it would have been a happy affair. We are not asking for giving facilities to our boys to make them administrators but we are asking for them as elementary rights of our citizens so that they must do some useful work.

Lastly, Sir I say this much only that we want aid for those venture high schools and if aid is denied then a great anxiety is created in the minds of our people and if it is not given then the people shall have to divert the revenue and taxes due from them to the expenditure for running those schools without help from the Government, as being the next alternative.

With these words, Sir, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Motion moved is that the total provision of Rs.3,59,95,000 under Grant No.16, Major head-37.—Education, at page 94 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1, *i.e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.3,59,95,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though I had as many as 4 Cut Motions standing in my name I propose to confine myself only to one point in the Motion and that is the question of public school, because it is a new scheme as we see from the Memorandum—at page 45 of Appendix A of the Memorandum—where the aim has been shown as “The starting of a public school in Assam for training of Assam youth for future leadership in various fields of public life, etc.” There is no disagreement that the aim of our education should be to train our future generation for leadership in different aspects of life. The question is how best to do it and how best it can serve the need of the society that we have and the society that we visualise.

Now, this institution of a public school is a British idea. Among other things we have also borrowed this idea from England. This system of public school is under heavy fire from the democratic point of view in Britain itself. I am not going to elaborate on the point, but I want to refer to the Education Minister to the Book entitle “Education for a New Society” by Ernest Green where in page 107 it is said: “It is no more accident that the public school has been the avenue to what might be called key-position appointments. It has been a definite policy to give preference to its products, not necessarily because they were better fitted by educational qualification, but because it ensured continuity of a distinctive caste control of social and political policy.” I request the Education Minister to note carefully the words “caste control” The institution was created to create a new caste of rulers.

Then again I refer the Education Minister and the Government to the writing of another writer whose name is well known, that is, Bertrand Russell. At page 43 of his book he writes: "Dr, Arnold's system, which has remained in force in English public schools to the present day, had another defect namely that it was aristocratic." Then later on he says: "But aristocracy is out of date, and subject populations will no longer obey even the most wise and virtuous rulers." Afterwards he again says: "The battle of Water-loo may have been won on the playing fields of Eton, but the British Empire is being lost there. The modern world needs a different type, with more imaginative sympathy, more intellectual agility, less belief in bulldog courage and more belief in technical knowledge. The administrator of the future must be the servant of free citizens, not the benevolent ruler of admiring subjects. The aristocratic tradition embedded in British higher education is its bane." So, this is what the learned people of England themselves say.

Another English authority, Sir, Godfrey Thomson has written in his book entitled "A Modern Philosophy of Education" at page 267, as: "There are the public schools in the narrower sense, mainly residential in character, schools like Eton, Winchester, Haileybury, Oundle. These receive boys from preparatory schools, which often are also residential, and large numbers of their scholars, probably a substantial majority, pass on to a university or to the army or navy."

Now we want to make basic schools. That is what we profess. Will the basic schools be the preparatory schools for this public school or in other words, will the basic schools be the preparing ground for public school? I think the Government, specially the Education Minister have noted that there has been a lot of criticism both in the Press and in the platform that what the British has discarded as being out of date we are taking up just after they have left our country. It is our misfortune that we have begun a caste system, a new caste system. We ask the boys and girls of our peasants and labourers to go to the basic schools which some of our village people have given the name as "পাটি খবাহী তৈয়াৰ কৰা school". Our Minister and other big people prefer to send their children either to the Kindergarten schools or to the Loreto Convent etc. Will the daughter of the Education Minister be sent to the same basic school

to read with the daughter of a tea garden labourer or I should say with my daughter? We cannot say. There should be no further distinction.

There should be one type of school for all citizens. The leadership for future India should be built up in these common schools. Therefore that discredited idea of British regime, of the 18th or 19th century should now go. There should not be casteism in education. While it is good that we are giving a little more attention than the past in educational expenditure and our Education Budget is not so bad so far expenditure side is concerned, we should also remember another State of our Indian Union, i.e., the State of Madras. Education Budget of Madras State is something in the tune of Rs.10 crores.

(Voice—What is the total income of that State ?)

I am not sure, but I think the income of Madras is about 31 crores. Madras has not started any new Public School, so far as can be said from reports published in newspapers.

I am just referring to only a few facts about Madras. "As Basic education has been accepted as the pattern to be adopted in the elementary education stage, the Government have decided to convert the existing elementary and training schools into basic types." Further, "a great step forward has been taken by the Government with the announcement that education would be free for children of parents earning less than Rs. 100 per month." Then again, "A scheme of diversified course is in force in secondary schools, the main object being to provide a variety of courses instead of merely an academic one. "So, what we need is also schools of this sort. I therefore request the Minister-in-charge to reconsider the advisability or otherwise of starting such Public Schools.

Now without making any more speech, I would only refer to one more important point. I have visited the Public Library of Shillong. I find, it is quite good, but it would be much better if the accommodation facilities in the library could be a bit more improved. What I want to suggest to Government is that in view of the fact that Gauhati is now the nerve centre of Assam educationally and culturally, the seat of this Government Library should be transferred to Gauhati keeping a wing at Shillong as also in other district headquarters.

With these few words I support the Cut Motion of Mr. Gogoi.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall confine myself to only two or three points. Regarding the Karimganj College I would request the Government to consider the desirability of giving a non-recurring grant. Sir, Karimganj College was established with the help of public donations in the year 1946, and with great efforts we have been successful in raising the fund of the college to Rs. 3½ lakhs. Uptil now we have received no non-recurring grant from Government for construction of buildings, etc., only we are getting a recurring grant. Sir, it is known to all that due to influx of refugees, students of the college has increased about 65 to 75 per cent. Now, Sir, if it is not possible for our Government to give any specific grant for refugee students, I would request the Education Department to accept the scheme which has been forwarded by the Principal of the college to the Government of Assam in the Education Department—and send it to the Government of India so that it may be possible for us to get some help from them for refugee fund.

Secondly, I shall speak a few words on the distribution of grants to schools. Sir, it appears there is no fixed principle of the Government in the matter of giving grants to schools. Whoever (particularly an M.L.A.) can give much pressure on the Minister or the Government generally becomes successful in getting grants to the institution he supports, irrespective of the fact whether such an institution deserves grant or not. Sir, the Karimganj High Madrassa is the oldest Madrassa in Assam. It is giving education to Matriculation standard. It was established in the year 1926. There are about 230 students and 14 teachers. This school gets a recurring grant of Rs. 250 per mensem. In the year 1952-53 this institution got a building grant of Rs. 300 and in 1951-52 it received another grant of Rs. 200 for purchase of equipment, and this year they constructed a new building by raising public donation to the extent of Rs. 5,000. On the other hand, let us see how the Badarpur Title Madrassa has been helped by the Government. This institution was established in the year 1947, number of students 13 only teachers 3 and our friend and colleague Maulana Jalil is the principal of this Madrassa drawing a pay Rs. 150 per month. This Madrassa got Rs. 200 in the year 1952 and another grant of Rs. 130 as receiving grant. Last year a non-recurring grant of Rs. 6,000 was given to this Madrassa, but they could not utilise this amount. But this year another sum of Rs. 2,000 has been

granted to this school for purchase of equipment. The recurring grant has also been raised to Rs. 3,300. They are getting another grant for teaching Hindi. But so far as my information goes, there is no qualified Hindi teacher in the school. Sir, there are only two Title Madrassas in whole of India one is at Badarpur and another in Calcutta. Is it not favouritism?

Next I want certain clarification from the Minister-in-charge regarding deduction of 25 per cent of grants to aided High Schools in lieu of abolition of Class III. In reply to my question the Minister-in-charge said that there was no distinction made in this matter in any school in Assam. Sir, in reply to the Budget discussions he said that actually what happened was that the Circular issued by the Education Directorate was issued to all the Inspectors of Schools but the Inspector of Schools in Cachar gave effect to the orders contained in the circular letter while his counter parts in Upper and Lower Assam Circles failed to comply with orders. Sir, I want to know what is the correct position. Who is responsible for non-compliance of the orders of the Government even after two years? I want to suggest that if the cut is to be enforced, it should be done so without any discrimination from the same date. With these words I support the Cut Motion of Mr. Gogoi.

Maulavi MUHAMMAD UMARUDDIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak a few words on the general principle on which expenditure on education is to be incurred. Notwithstanding the fact that our Budget on education has gone up to $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees, I personally feel that our planning on education has not been made on sound lines. I find that on University education we are spending about Rs. 18 lakhs and for Secondary education Rs. 60,76,000 and for Primary education Rs. 1,08,76,000 totalling a sum of about Rs. 1,87,91,000, on the Development side the total expenditure on all three branches of education is Rs. 32 lakhs in all. My point is, so far as our educational policy is concerned, I think we must formulate it in a manner so as to have a fuller realisation of our basic needs. To achieve this end, education of our boys and girls must receive our proper attention, and we must examine the question very carefully and see how best the education in the University and other stages can be improved. That can only be done by improving the quality of teachers and this requires upgarding of their scales of pay. Incidentally, Sir, I may mention that Government have thought it fit to provide a scale of Rs. 1,200—1,500 for the Headmaster of the public School, which is proposed to be set up at Gauhati, but curiously,

enough, the pay of the Principal of the Cotton College, Gauhati, is not more than Rs. 500. It is ridiculous that the only Government college, which is supposed to impart education of the University standard, should have at its head a man drawing a salary of not more than Rs. 500 whereas the headmaster of the proposed public School will get salary of Rs. 1,200. This is absolutely fantastic and ridiculous. We must examine the whole education Budget with a view to redistribute grants according to the necessity of each branch of education. Of course, we must lay more stress on primary education; we must spread primary education on the basic system. At the same time, we must eliminate the distinction between so-called Government secondary schools and non-Government secondary schools. They must be treated on the same plane. For this purpose, we must also provide better scales of pay for teachers. We want an adequate number of good and qualified teachers. The teachers now a days are not upto the standard. The people are paying more and more attention to secondary education and are starting more and more secondary schools. There is at present no proper control over these schools and they are also not properly distributed throughout the State. Certain areas have got more schools than is needed, while others have got very few. Generally what happens is this: where there are influential persons who can put pressure on the Government and on the local officers get grants for the schools they have started. This must stop. The educational institutions should be allotted not on the basis of pressure or on the initiative taken by the people, but according to necessities of particular areas. Therefore, Sir, we must have a comprehensive policy in this respect. I suggest that Government should appoint a high-powered committee with some educational experts to go into this question and suggest ways and means as to how the entire education system can be revised in the light of our requirements, so that we can properly build a nation worthy of the status that we propose to have. There in the case of University education also we must stop the present drift policy. University education should be rationalised and indiscriminate opening of colleges in various places should be controlled. University education should aim more at quality than at number. The present tendency of opening colleges also indicates that the unemployment problem is getting more acute and this underlines the sincerity for the expansion of technical education. We must also provide for higher scales of pay to attract the best qualified teachers and thereby improve the quality and

standard of teaching—otherwise money spent on University education will be a wastage.

With these few words, I support the cut motion.

Shri RADHA CHARAN CHAUDHURY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish only to speak on one aspect. In distributing grants under Section 275 to plains tribal areas, our Government is following a discriminatory policy. I shall cite a few instances. Sir, the people of the Garo community have started one Middle English School and one High English School at Gohalkona, which is at a distance of 7 miles from Boko. These Schools are situated in a very interior place. In spite of request by the people and also my request to the Government, Government have not provided a single pie for these two schools, even though they need development. These are the schools started by a minority community and they need Government help. But I do not know why this discriminatory policy is being pursued. Then, Sir, I come to Chaygaon Aided High School, where one-third of the students, *i. e.*, not less than 100, belong to the plains tribal communities, *viz.*, Kacharis and Rabhas. Till now nothing has been done for the development of that school. They want hostel accommodation library and all other reading facilities.

(At this stage the Speaker vacated the Chair and the Deputy speaker occupied it)

Sir, I request the Government to give sufficient grant for hostel accommodation of tribal students and for their reading. In this connection I want to say a few words. We find that in distributing the grant under Article 275, Government consult only the tribal members. But it is not a fact that for development of tribal areas only tribal members are interested; the non-tribal members are also equally interested for the all-round development of the tribal people. So, at the time of distribution of grants, the non-tribal members should also be consulted.

With these few words, I support the cut motion.

(At this stage the Speaker left the Chamber and the Deputy Speaker presided.)

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will not take much time. I shall deal only with two points about reorientation of our system of education about which we had occasion to speak very often. Sir, last time when this matter was discussed the Minister-in-charge of Education gave us to understand that a Special officer had been appointed to go into the whole matter of secondary education in the light of the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission. Sir, we want to know from the Minister-in-charge what has been the fact of that report, whether any

report has been submitted and, if so, what is the report and what steps have been taken on the basis of that report. I have also another point to mention here, *viz.*, that last year when I tabled a question, in reply to that the Minister in charge said that regarding aided colleges in our State an agreement had been arrived at between the Education Minister and the College Teachers' Association. We were given to understand that the teachers had agreed not to press for dearness allowance, instead they would be given increment in their salary. Sir, the University Commission recommended that the starting salary should not be less than Rs. 200. Even then, in view of the financial stringency of our State, the College Teachers' Association agreed to have Rs. 175 as starting salary of the teachers. They agreed also that for Intermediate Colleges, the Principal should get a scale from Rs. 250—400 and the lecturers from Rs. 175—300. For the Degree Colleges, the respective pay scales should be Rs. 300—600 for the Principal and Rs. 175—450 for the Lecturers. It was pointed out that in the Government colleges the starting salary for a Lecturer was Rs. 175 and so the initial could not immediately be raised to Rs. 200 in case of non-Government Colleges. The Association, therefore, gave up that demand. But, Sir, we do not find that the Budget estimates have been framed on the basis of that agreement. What is this? If an agreement was arrived at and hopes were held out to the teachers that they would be given better terms not only regarding pay but also something on building account, libraries and other things of the institutions, I failed to understand why that agreement should not be implemented. What is the difficulty? I want to know whether these proposals were sent to the Finance Department and what is the reaction of that Department. All these things we want to know. Sir, we want good teachers, we want to educate our pupils properly. But the pay and other terms offered to the teachers are not attractive, whereas in other Departments of Government the pay, etc., are more attractive. Therefore, the best people are not drawn to this Department. I do not want to take more time of the House on other matters, which have already been referred to by many hon. Members.

With these few words, I support the Cut Motion of my friend and I request the Education Minister to give us at least some light on these matters.

Shri JADAV CHANDRA KHAKHLARI: যোৱা বছৰ বুনিয়াদী স্কুল সম্বন্ধে কোৱা হৈছিল যে বুনিয়াদী স্কুল স্থাপন কৰিলে নগৰৰ লৰা-ছোৱালীয়েও তাত শিক্ষা লাভ কৰিব আৰু এই বুনিয়াদী স্কুলবোৰ আদৰ্শ স্কুল হৈ

উঠিব। কিন্তু কার্য্যত দেখা গল যে নগরব লবা-ছোৱালীবোৰৰ অভিভাবক সকলে কিস্তাবগাৰ্টেন স্কুলত শিক্ষা দিবলৈ ধৰিলে। গতিকে গাঁৱৰ মানুহবোৰে ভবা স্বাভাবিক যে Basic School বোৰ গাঁৱৰ লবা-ছোৱালীবোৰৰ কাৰণেহে নগৰব বোৰৰ কাৰণে নহয়। সেই কাৰণেই মানুহে ভাবিছে যে গাঁৱৰ বোৰে Basic School ত শিক্ষা লাভ কৰি খেতিয়ক হ'ব আৰু নগৰৰ সকল দেশৰ শাসনকৰ্ত্তা হ'ব। আৰু এটা কথা Basic school ৰ কাৰণে চেয়াৰমেন কৰি দিয়া হৈছে নগৰৰ মানুহক কিন্তু নগৰৰ মানুহৰ বুনিয়াদী শিক্ষাৰ ওপৰত কোনো আস্থা নাই।

তদুপৰি এতিয়া Public School খুলিবলৈ লৈছে। ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা বুনিয়াদী স্কুল প্ৰচাৰ কৰাত ব্যাঘাট হ'ব বুলি মই ভাবিছো।

Mr. SPEAKER : হৈছে আপোনাৰ কবলগিয়া কথা খিনি কোৱা হৈ গৈছে। এতিয়া বহক।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : গোয়ামী ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে Secondary School ৰ শিক্ষা ভাল নহয়। সেইটো কোৱা অন্যায় হৈছে। যিবিলাক ধনী শ্ৰেণীৰ লোক তেওঁলোকৰ লবা-ছোৱালী বোৰ Public School ত পঢ়িব পাৰে কিন্তু দুখীয়া মানুহৰ লবা-ছোৱালীবোৰে Secondary School ত নপঢ়ি আৰু কি কৰিব পাৰে?

Mr. SPEAKER : হৈছে হৈছে, আপোনাৰ কথাও সেই একে ধৰণৰে হৈছে নতুন একো নাই গতিকে আপুনি বহিব পাৰে।

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY : ভট্টাচাৰ্য্য ডাঙৰীয়াই কৈছে যে Public School খুলিলে সমাজৰ classification কৰা হ'ব। সেইটো ঠিক কথা। বুনিয়াদী শিক্ষা আমাৰ দুখীয়া দেশৰ কাৰণে সচাকৈয়ে উপযুক্ত সেই কাৰণে বুনিয়াদী শিক্ষা গোটেই দেশত প্ৰচাৰ কৰা উচিত। Public School খুলিলে চৰকাৰে বিশেষ অন্যায় কৰা হ'ব বুলি ভাবো।

Maulana ABDUL JALIL : অধ্যক্ষ মহাশয় আমাৰ একাটি কথা মনে হইতেছে। আমাদেৱে গ্ৰাম্য ভাষায় বলে “বাপ না পুতে চুঙা ভৰি মুতে”— অৰ্থাৎ জীৱনে বাদেৰ যে বিষয়ে কোন অভিজ্ঞতা নাই তাদেৱে মুখে সেইসব বিষয়েৰ কথা শুনিলে উপৰেৰ কথাটি মনে হওৱা স্বাভাবিক। আমাদেৱে ৰণেন্দ্ৰ মোহন দাশ মহাশয়েৰ মুখে মাদ্ৰাসা বিষয়ে কথা শুনে আমি এই কথাটি উল্লেখ কৰোঁ। তিনি নিজেই বলিয়াছেন যে মাদ্ৰাসা শিক্ষা সম্পৰ্কে উনাৰ কোনো অভিজ্ঞতা নাই; তথাপিও তিনি মাদ্ৰাসা সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা কৰিলেন। ১৯৪৭ সাল ইংৰাজীতে তখনকাৰ শিক্ষা দপ্তৰেৰ পাৰিয়ামেণ্টাৰী সেক্ৰেটাৰী মাদ্ৰাসা সম্পৰ্কে যে নোট দিয়েছিলেন, আৰ মজী মহোদয় যে বক্তৃতা দিয়েছিলেন তাৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰমাণ হয় মাদ্ৰাসায় কেমন ধৰণেৰ শিক্ষা দেওয়া হয়। সেইজন্য আমি বলিতে চাই যে বাহাদেৱে মাদ্ৰাসা সম্পৰ্কে interest আছে তাহাৰা বলিলে বুঝাইয়া বলিতে পাৰিবেন যে মাদ্ৰাসা শিক্ষা কি জিনিষ আৰ মাদ্ৰাসা গুলিকে কি ভাবে সরকারেৰ তৰফ থেকে সাহায্য দেওয়া উচিত।

Mr. SPEAKER : মৌলানা সাহেব আপনাৰ কথাটি সকলেই বুঝিয়াছেন গুতৰাং আপনি বসিয়া যান।

Maulana ABDUL JALIL : মহোদয় নিশ্চয়ই উনাৰ কথায় প্ৰমাণ হইতেছে যে, ৰণেন্দ্ৰবাবু কতিপয় লোকেৰ প্ৰৱোচনায় দেওৱাইল টাইটেল মাদ্ৰাসাৰ কথা বলেছেন। তিনি জানেন নাই যে আমাদেৱে প্ৰদেশে এত উচ্চ আৰবী, পাৰসী শিক্ষা প্ৰতিষ্ঠান আৰ নাই। হাই-মাদ্ৰাসাৰ, টাইটেল মাদ্ৰাসাৰ সজে কোন তুলনাই হইতে পাৰে না।

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have listened to the Speakers and the points raised by the hon. Members in the course of the discussions and I propose to take the points one by one. Sir, my friend Mr. Bhattacharyya has raised a point questioning the utility of the Public Schools and in this connection he has quoted some authors. Sir, I am aware of the fact that Public Schools came into bitter criticism some years ago, and the books which my friend has mentioned relate to a period of some years ago. Sir, Public School is not the monopoly of the British. There are also Public schools in American countries. These schools are established according to the pattern of society. Sir, in our country in India, there are now 28 Public schools. For the information of the hon. Members of the House I like to say that this question of Public schools was also discussed in the Central Advisory Board of Education and it is this August body which made certain recommendations. The Educationists of India also discussed on this question of Public Schools in this Advisory Board. Let me bring to the notice of the House that in this Conference no less a person than Shri Aryanayakam who is the best exponent of basic education is a member.

Sir, my friend Mr. Bhattacharjyya also has mentioned about Madras budget and enquired whether a Public school has been established in Madras this year. Of course Madras had established a Public school. When it had with itself the Andhra districts. It is in Rishi Valley in Chittoor. After separation of Andhra, Madras has still an opportunity in this School to which it was connected from many years before.

Sir, during this year, Government of India offered a large number of scholarships for students according to the income of the guardians. Many students from Assam also applied. The applicants of Assam were screened according to regions. And after final screening the students from Assam were asked to go to Calcutta for the final test examination to be held there, but the date of the examination was announced very late. Sir, the House is aware that in the months of August and September, Assam was practically cut off from the rest of India and there was no communication except by air and two or three of the guardians could not secure a seat on the plane and so they could not avail of the opportunity offered by the Government of India for the Public School. Sir, he has raised another question. I differ with him regarding the creation of caste in the Public School. Sir, it is not the idea of the Government to create a separate caste through this School.

Even without the Public School we have already two castes—the educated and the uneducated. It is due to the system of education prevailing in the past that we have these two castes, and it is our objective to remove this caste, to reorient our system of education. We have resolved to build up a democracy. As such we cannot afford to create castes amongst our citizens. The removal of caste is our objective. There are already 28 Public Schools existing and the students are taken irrespective of the fact that he is a son of an agriculturist or of a rich man. The admission is given on merit. This year the Government of India introduced the method of testing the boys by testing their merit, so everyone according to the merit will be given admission in the Public School. There is no bar for admission owing to the fact that one happens to be the son of an agriculturist. The object of the Public School is to train our boys to be good citizens and for leadership, and there will be no difficulties for the students going to Public School from the Basic School. The objective in Basic School is also same,—the objective is to train them for leadership, by giving them responsibilities in the matters of School discipline, in the matter of school activities. In the Basic School these curricula are already there. And as such I do not see any point with regard to the criticism raised by my friend Sri Bhattacharyya. Then Sir, my Friend Shri Bhattacharyya raised another point about the Public Library, I mean the Government Library in Shillong. He suggested that it should be located at Gauhati or in any of the plains district. Sir, this Public Library is required especially for the administration of the Autonomous district and when the capital of the State is located in Shillong, the Public Library should also be located here. On the other hand I should like to say that in Gauhati there is much facilities for libraries already. There is the Nabin Chandra Bordoloi Memorial Library, which was formerly called the Curzon Library, which is one of the best Library in the whole of Assam. Then there is the Law College Library which is also one of the best libraries throughout the State. The Cotton College Library is also one of the best. Libraries within the State. All these libraries are located at Gauhati. Apart from these the University is building up a big library in the University site and as such there will be ample opportunities for the people there to take advantage of these libraries and as such I do not think there is any point with regard to the transfer of the Public Library from Shillong to Gauhati. Sir, these were the salient points raised by my Friend Sri Bhattacharyya and I, hope I have been able to reply to them.

Now my Friend Shri Goswami has enquired as to what steps have been taken by the Government about the reorientation of the education in the light of the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission. Sir, we appointed a Special Officer and that Special Officer has submitted a report and that report is under the examination of the Government. He has further enquired as to what steps we have taken to implement the recommendations of that Commission—whether we have any scheme for multipurpose schools. Sir, these schemes are being put into operation and during the next financial year some multipurpose schools, some vocational High Schools will be established. Shri Goswami also mentioned about an agreement between the College Teachers regarding their scales of pay, etc. Sir, the College Teachers submitted certain demands and out of these one item was with regard to their scale of pay. Government have fulfilled some of their demands. From the budget placed before the House it will be seen that steps have been taken regarding the improvement of the Libraries and also for the improvement of buildings, etc., but with regard to the scale of pay for the College Teachers, the question is under the consideration of the Government. Some College teachers met me yesterday and I spent an hour with them and discussed these matters with them. Sir, it was in November last that the scale of pay was agreed to by the teachers and the financial implication had to be estimated and after this examination Government would consider what further action they could take. Now as the financial implications have been calculated it will be placed before the Government for further consideration.

Then coming to my Friend, Shri Ghana Kanta Gogoi, he raised that a technical school should be established in every Subdivision. I agree with him. At present we are establishing few technical schools throughout the State. We are proposing to establish one technical school at Silchar and there is also a proposal to establish such schools at Tezpur and Nowgong. And we would expand after some schools are established. We have made no provision in the budget yet. The difficulty is that for want of technical personnel we have not been able to construct the houses and therefore we have not been able to spend what has already been provided. So we are implementing these schemes gradually. We have already made a decision regarding the establishment of a Civil Engineering College and also an Electrical and Mechanical Engineering College and there will be a heavy expenditure.

Another point has been raised by many hon. Members that the difference between the pay of the proposed Public School and that of the Principal of the Cotton College is very considerable. I have noted this fact. This is already under our consideration. I do not deny the fact that the Principal of the Cotton College should be given a better salary. With regard to the Headmaster of the Public School, he has been given a very heavy responsibility. As I have stated the Public School is not aimed at creating a caste for administrators. Any one who proves his merit will be admitted into the school. All boys will be tested according to their merit before they are given admission.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARYA : Whether the Headmaster will be an Indian or European ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : There has been no decision on this, but in all Public Schools throughout India some Englishmen have already been employed as Headmaster. From the report I have received, Mr. Pearson, the Headmaster of the Rishi Valley Public School at Chittor who was previously at Santi Niketan, he was very much in favour of basic education.

My Friend Mr. Ghana Kanta Gogoi also raised the point that the provision which has been made for the Middle English Schools is inadequate. I agree with him, but we have to go by our resources. I will be happy if I could have more fund for our Middle English Schools.

My Friend Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das has raised a point that the Karimganj College has not received our attention. For the information of the hon. Member I can say that during the past few years this college has been awarded the following grants :—in 1949-50—Rs.5,000 for installation of a gas plant, in 1952-53—Rs.8,500 was sanctioned in connection with the opening of the B. Sc. class and in 1953-54—Rs.3,000 was sanctioned for purchase of equipments and in the next budget provision is already there for Rs.10,000 to each of aided colleges for improvement of buildings and another grant of Rs.500 for purchase of scientific apparatus and Karimganj College is one of these Colleges. As such I do not think he would be correct in saying that we are making any discrimination against that college.

Shri RANENDRA MOHAN DAS : So far as the College is concerned I did not say there is discrimination.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : Thank you.

Regarding the question of reduction of grants-in-aid due to the abolition of Class III, this was discussed during the budget discussion and I have already replied that there was no discrimination and the orders were already there. The Inspector of Schools, Upper Assam carried out the order and the Inspector of Lower Assam took some time in carrying out the order. That does not indicate that we have followed a policy of discrimination. If there has been any discrimination it is in favour of the Government school.

My Friend Shri Radhacharan Choudhury has raised a point with regard to Goholkona Middle English school. He has mentioned that there has been discrimination against this school. Sir, with regard to the distribution of tribal grants we must take into account the views of the tribal members. Goholkona Middle English school is situated on the border of Kamrup and Garo Hills and the inhabitants are Garos. There was a discussion about this school between some tribal members and there has been some difference of opinion among them but I will see what can be done in this matter. It is not our intention to suppress this Goholkona Middle English school. If it is a deserving school it will surely receive our attention. I have asked the Inspector of Schools to inspect the school and submit a report. So, Sir, we have to take the view of the tribal members and also we take note of the fact which school is deserving and which is not deserving.

Another point was raised by my Friend, Mr. Ranendra Mohan Das, regarding some of the Members by pressing upon me to increase the grants without taking into account other factors like enrolment, etc. This is not a fact. These grants are always issued according to certain rules and in pursuance of these rules the grants are issued and these rules are already there. According to the rules each school will receive grants on the basis of enrolment, managing committee, building, etc. The difficulty has arisen with regard to the Venture High Schools. These schools were brought in to existence after the introduction of the schemes. There is no difficulty with regard to the schools which were already in existence. Grant-in-aid is given according to these rules but the difficulty has been with Venture Middle English schools and High schools. This year 173 High schools are getting full amount of grants according to the new schemes. There are 95 High schools that are being awarded at

the rate of Rs.240 per month. Besides this, there are a number of schools to which we could not award any grant. Sir, there are 390 Boys Middle English schools which are getting monthly grants at the rate of at Rs.50. There is always a uniform rate and about 44 boys and 3 more Girls Middle English schools are getting grants between Rs.25 and Rs.50 per month. In the budget there is provision for increasing 50 Middle English schools. Sir, I think, I have touched on all the points. Shri Khakhlari has raised a point regarding the basic schools in the urban areas.—that the boys of the urban areas go to the kindergarten schools whereas boys in the rural areas have to go to basic schools. The kindergarten schools have not been opened by the State Government but the Roman Catholic mission in some places only. Basic schools had been also opened in urban areas, for example, in a town like Gauhati.

Shri GAURISANKAR BHATTACHARJYYA: That is for the tribals.

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister) : The son of late Lokopriya Bordolai also is reading there and many other boys of the locality who sent their boys to the Primary schools. The sons of tribals and many other people who are residing in that area are also taking advantage of this school.

Sir, I do not think there is any other point which I have left. Criticism was very much against the public school. I have taken note of the criticism made by Mr. Bhattacharyya. I request my Friend Shri Gogoi to withdraw his Cut Motion.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Doley, do you want to speak something ?

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY: হয় উপাধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মই কথা কব খুজিছিলো সেইটো হৈছে অলপ আগতে বিবোৰী দলৰ ফালৰ পৰা, শ্ৰীযুত চৌধুৰী ডাঙৰীয়াই ট্ৰাইবেল স্কুল সমূহত গ্ৰান্ত দিওতে, ট্ৰাইবেল মেম্বাৰৰ বাহিৰে আন মেম্বাৰৰ দিহা পৰামৰ্শ নলয় বুলি যি অভিযোগ কৰিছে তাৰ উত্তৰত কও—এই ‘গ্ৰান্ত’ বিলাক দিওতে ‘ট্ৰাইবেল’ ‘মেম্বাৰ’ সকলৰো দিহা পৰামৰ্শ নলয় আৰু বিভাগীয় কৰ্তৃপক্ষই বিতৰণ কৰে।

Shri GHANA KANTA GOGOI : Sir, what provision is being made for grant-in-aid to deserving existing Venture High Schools established in areas which are backward and inhabited by backward people ?

Shri OMEO KUMAR DAS (Minister): I have already said because of our resources we have not been able to increase the provision. There is hardly any area in Assam which may not be called backward. Whenever I go to Dhemaji, the people will say that the area is most backward and some other places also like Majuli will claim that their area is the

most backward. Sir, we are considering a question of grant to all these schools and whenever we can find the provision, the Venture High schools will certainly be given adequate grant. Another point I must mention in this connection, is the question in relation to the recommendation of the Secondary Education Commission. We are considering the question of rationalising the location of the High Schools. This question will also be taken into consideration. My Friend, has also raised another point regarding the pay scales of teachers. That point also will be taken into consideration by Government.

Shri GHANA KANTA GOGOI : There is provision of 50,000 for granting scholarships to political sufferers. Regarding that point, I intend to say.....

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot allow you. I want to ask you whether you want to withdraw your Cut Motion or not ?

Shri GHANA KANTA GOGOI : No Sir.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

That the total provision of Rs.3,59,95,000 under Grant No.16, Major head—37—Education, at page 94 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1., *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs.3,59,95,000 do stand reduced by Re.1.

(The Motion was negatived).

The question is :

That a sum of Rs.3,59,95,000 (Rupees three crores, fifty-nine lakhs and ninety-five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1956, for the administration of the head—“37—Education.”

(The Motion was adopted.)

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 1-30 P. M., on Friday, the 25th March, 1955.

R. N. BARUA,

Shillong :

Secretary,

The 3rd February 1956.

Legislative Assembly, Assam.